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Archaeologia Cambrensis.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. XVII, NO. LXV.

JANUARY, 1900.

SURVEYS OF THE MANORS OF RADNORSHIRE.

BY JOHN LLOYD, ESQ.

PARLIAMENTARY SURVEYS.—No. 1.

*Radnor Manerium de Comotoyder Cum Juribus Membris et
Appurtenant'.*

A Survey of the Mannor of Comotoyder, with the Rightes, Members and Appurtenances thereof, lyinge and beinge in the County of Radnor, late Parcell of the Possessions of Charles Stuart, late Kinge of England, made and taken by us whose names are hereunto subscribed in the moneth of february, by vertue of a Commission grounded upon an Act of the Comons Assembled in Parliament, for sale of the Honors, Manors, and landes heretofore belonginge to the Kinge, Queene and Prince, under the handes and Seales of ffive or more of the Trustees in the Said Act named and Apoynted.

The Quitt Rentes due to the lord of the Afore-said Mannor of Comotoyder houldinge of of [*sic*] the said Manor in free Soccage Tenure Accordinge to the Custome thereof and Payable at Ladyday £4 16 8 and Michaelmas are per Ann. iiijli xvjs viijd.

The Courte Barrons and Courte Leete fines and Amercements of Courte, Ishues, post fines, fines upon descent or Alienacion, Releifes, waifes, strayes, deodandes, fellons goodes, Goodes of fellons of themselves, of ffugitives and of Condemned Persons, Hawkinge, Huntinge, ffishinge, fflowleinge and all

other profittes and Perquessittes within the Aforesaid Mannor and the Royalties thereof Appertaininge We Estimate to bee Worth Communibus Annis

£4 10
iiij*li.* xs.

Total of all the Quitt Rentes and Royalties in Present Possession are per Ann.

£9 6 8
ix*li.* vjs. viij*d.*

The Herriottes due to the lord of the said Mannor from the Severall Tennantes thereof uppon descent or Alienacion Accordinge to the Custome thereof wee Estimate to bee worth Communibus Annis

20*s.*
xx*s.*

This Grant to be Produced.

Memorand' the Herriottes aforesaid Together with the Herriotes Happeninge within the Severall Mannors of Presteigne, Knighton, Knocklas, Glawdestry, Southnethran, Southruralty, Southugree, Ischoyd, Uchoyd, Royader and Rislin are granted (as wee are Informed) to S'r Edmond Sawyer, Knight, for a Certeine Tearme of yeeres yett to come, which grante hath not beene produced to us. Butt in Consideracion that if the said Herriott should bee disposed of Accordinge to the said grante for the ffuture the severall Mannors aforesaid would bee Mangled, Wee have in this Mannor (as wee shall in all the Rest) vallued them as a Revercion of the said grante, if it shall be ffound good.

An abstract of the present Rentes, ffuture Improvements and all other profittes of ye said Mannor.

£10 6 8

The Quitt Rentes and Royalties

xli. vjs. viij*d.*

The Rentes uppon the Leases

Some totall of ye present profittes

The Improvement of the severall Leases within the said Mannor above the now Reserved Rent is .

Soe the Totall of the future Improvements is—

Subscribed by

HEN. MAKEPEACE.

PETER PRICE.

Ex'r per Will. Webb, Supervis Gen'll
1649.

JO. LLOYD.

[Endorsed] Comotoyder Mannor
nuper Car. Regis.

Rec'd this 18th of February, 1649.

Transmitted to the Surveyor G'rall the same day.

Returned the xxth february.

MAKEPEACE.

PARLIAMENTARY SURVEYS.—No. 2.

Radnor Manerium de Glawdestry Cum Juribus Membris et Appurtenant.

A Survey of the Mannor of Glaudestry, with the rightes, Members and appurtenances thereof, lieing and being in the County of Radnor, late parcelles of the possession of Charles Stuart, late King of England, made and taken by us whose names are hereunto subscribed in the Moneth of January by virtue of a Comission grounded upon an Act of the Comons assembled in Parliament for the sale of the Honors, Mannors, and landes heretofore belonging to the late King, Queene and Prince, under the hands and seales of five or more of the Trustees in the said Act named and appointed.

The Quitt Rentes due to the Lord of the Mannor aforesaid within the Towne and parrish of Glawdestry holding of the said Mannor in free soccage, tenure, according to the Custome thereof and payable at Michaelmas and Lady Day per Ann. £3 13 2
 iij*li*. xiijs. ijd.

A certeine Custome there called the Horneld payable every fourth yeare vij*li*. xvs. vjd. which is per Annum £1 18 9
 j*li*. xvij*s*. ix*d*.

The Court Barrons and Cort Leetes, fines and Amerciaments of Courtes Issues Post fines, fines upon descent or Alienacion Releifes, Waifes, Strayes, Deodandes, ffellons goodes, Goodes of ffellons of themselves, of ffugitives and of Condemned persons, hawking hunting ffishing ffowling and all other proffittes and perquessittes within the aforesaid Mannor and to the Royealtie thereof apperteyning Estimated Communibus Annis £4
 iij*li*.

Totall of the Quitt rentes and Royealties in present possession are per Ann £9 12 11
 ix*li*. xijs. xjd.

The Herriottes due to the Lord of the said Mannor from the Severall Tenantes thereof upon discents and alienacion, According to the Custome thereof We estimate Communibus Annis £5
 v*li*.

Memorandum that the Herriottes aforesaid together with the Herriottes happening within the Severall Mannors of Presteigne, Knocklas, Knighton, Southunralth, Southugate, South Nethian,

Ischoyd, Uchoid, Rislin, Roynder and Comotoyder are granted are we are informed to Sir Edmond Sawyer, Knight, for a certeine terme of yeares yet to come, which graunt hath not bene produced to us, but in consideracion that if the said Herriottes should be disposed of according to the said graunt for the future, the severall Mannors aforesaid would be, we have in this Mannor as we shall in all the Rest value them as a Revercion of the said Graunt if it shal be found good.

John Price.

All that Water Corne grist Milne in Glaudestry within the Mannor and Lordshipp of Radnor and Countie of Radnor, And all and singuler the appurtenances parcell of the possession of the late Earl of March And all and singuler houses Edifices structures barnes stables pidgeon houses, Orchards, gardens yarden Toftes Croftes Curtelages landes Tenementes Meadows feedings pastures leasowes, ffurses Turft wast Comons Moores Marishes Waters Watercourses pooles fishinges dammes floodgates Customes to the said [*sic*] tolles proffittes Comodities Emoluments and hereditamentes whatsoever to the said Mill belonging or apperteyng.

Redd. xvijs. iijd.

Memorand' that the aforesaid Watermilnes and severall premisses last above mentioned were by Queene Eliz. by Letters Pattentes dated the 17th of July in the 32th yeare of her raigne graunted to Griffith Price to hold from Michaelmas next after the date of the said Letters Pattentes for the life of him the said Griffith, And after his decease surrender or forfeiture to John Price and his Assignes during his naturall life; and after his decease surrender or forfeiture to Margaret Price daughter to the said Griffith, And to her Assignes for her life under the reserved yearly rent of Eighteene shillinges and foure pence payeable halfe yearly at Lady Day and Michaelmas by Equall porcions.

But is worth upon improvement above ye £10
said rent yearly xli.

Griffith Price is dead, John and Margaret are yet living. John Price is aged 60 years, and Margaret Price is aged 57 years.

William Evans, undertenant.

All that one Messuage or Tenement comonly called and knowne by the name of ffynhonny and

lieing and being in the parish of Colva and Mannor of Gawdestry conteyning foure Bayes of building And one barne of three bayes of building and also one garden and yard thereunto belonging and adjoyning; And also all those seaven severall Closes of Arrable and pasture thereunto belonging and adjoyning abutting, South upon the landes of Joane Olliver widdowe, And North upon the landes of John Price Powell, and bounded withe the Mountaine in the Weste conteyning by Estimacion 52 Acres

Worth per Acre per Ann. ijs. viiij*d*.

Wm. Evans.

And all that parcell of Arrable land comonly knowne by ye name of Tastagesmock in the parish of Colva and Mannor of Glawdestry aforesaid; All the aforesaid parcelles in the ocupacion of William Evans abutting West to the Mountaine, And east to the yate of the said William Evans. and bounded North with the landes of John Price Powell by Estimacion 1 Acre

Worth per Acre ijs. viiij*d*.

John Price Powell.

And all that parcell of Arrable land in the parish of Colva comonly called and knowne by ye name of Bushacre belonging to the aforesaid Messuage in the ocupacion of John Price Powell abutting West to a Mountaine, and East to a way that leads to Huntington And bounded North with the landes of John Price Powell by Estimacion 2 Acres

Worth per Acre ijs. viiij*d*.

Conteyning in toto Acres 55

Redd. xxs. This estate to be cleered.

Richard Jones Esq. pretends an interest in the last above mencioned premisses by lease at the yearly rent of xxs. but it could not be produced unto us and therefore we cannot Certifie further at present:

But that the same are worth upon Improvement over and above the Said £6 6 8
Rent per Ann. vj*li*. vjs. viiij*d*.

Redd. ijd.

All that twoe Ridges of Arrable land in Withall in ye Mannor of Glaudestry in the occupacion of Alice Probert widowe, the one abutting North upon the landes of M'r's Ann Jones, and adjoyning East with the freehold of the said Alice Probert the other abutting North upon the highway that leadeth to Trewerne by Estimacion at the yearly rent of ijd. 1 Acre

But is worth over and above by Improvement per Ann. 6s. vjs.

Robert Probert Redd. 1d.

All that one Cottage and Garden in Glawdestry in the occupacion of Robert Probert abutting south upon the Mountaine and bounded North with the River Withall, and built upon the Wast at the yearly rent of 1d. 10s.

But is worth by our Estimacion xs.

Anthony Price.

All those twoe parcelles of Arrable land comonly called ffynnon Ally and Townsteere alias Kinges acre in Glaudestry in the occupacion of Anthony Price, the one lieing on the East Side of ye Way that leadeth from Hengoid to Gawdestry lieing within the landes of Thomas Charles; abutting south upon the landes of Thomas Evans and bounded West with the landes of Lewes ap Griffith and East with the landes of Evan ap Edward and Lewis app Griffith the other within a Close of Thomas Charles on the East side of the highway and bounded south with the landes of James More Conteyning by Estimacion 2 Acres

Payeing yearly ijs. iiijd. Redd. 3s. 4d.

But is worth by improvement over and above the said yearly rent per Ann. 10s. xs.

Robert Meredith.

And all that halfe Acre of Arrable land in ye possession of Robert Meredith comonly called the Puny in Glaudestry butted and bounded with a Close of his, and lieing within the said Close of the said Robert Meredith; we cannot learne whether there be any rent paid for the same or noe 2s. 6d.

Valor per Ann. ijs. vjd.

There is a Courte Leett belonging to the said Mannor kept twice per annum viz. at our Lady and Michaelmas. Alsoe a Courte Barron kept at ye will of ye Lord.

An Abstract of ye said Mannor.

	£9	12	11
The Quit Rents and Royalties per annum	. ix <i>li</i> .	xijs.	xjd.
	£2	6	11
The Rent reserved upon ye Leases per annum	. ij <i>li</i> .	vjs.	xjd.
The some totall of ye present profits per an.	xj <i>li</i> .	xiijs.	xd.
	£11	14	10
The Herriots said to be demised for a tearme yett to come per Annum	. . . .	£5	v <i>li</i> .
The Improvement of ye severall Leases within ye said Mannor is per annum	. . . .	£17	15 2
	. . . .	xvij <i>li</i> .	xvs. ijd.
Some totall of ye future improvements of ye wholl Mannor as per annum	. . . .	£34	10
	. . . .	xxxiiij <i>li</i> .	xs.

Ex'r per Will. Webb Superv. Gen'll.
1649

HEN. MAKEPEACE.
JOHN MARRYOTT.
PETER PRICE.
JO. LLOYD.

[Endorsed] Glaudestry Manour
nuper Car. Regis

Radnor

Rec'd this 1st day of March, 1649.

Transmitted to the Surveyor General the same day.

Returned the 4th of March.

MAKEPEACE.

PARLIAMENTARY SURVEYS.—No. 3.

Radnor Manerium de Ischoyd Cum Juribus Membris et Appurtenant'.

A Survey of the Mannor of Ischoyd, with the Rightes Members and Appurtenances thereof, Lyinge and beeinge in the County of Radnor, late Parcell of the Possessions of Charles Stuart, late Kinge of England, made and taken by us whose names are hereunto subscribed in the moneth of January, by vertue of a Comission grounded uppon an Act of the Comons in Parliament Assembled for Sale of the Honors, Mannors and Landes heretofore belonginge to the late Kinge, Queene and Prince, under the handes and Seales of ffive or more of the Trustees in the said Act named and Appoynted.

The Quitt Rentes due to the Lord of the Aforesaid Mannor of Ischoyd houldeinge of the said Mannor in free Soccage Tenure Accordinge to the Custome thereof and payable at Michaelmas and Ladyday are per Ann.

£7 15 5½
vijli. xvs. vob.

The Courte Barrons and Courte Leete fines and Amercements of Court Isshues, post fines, fines uppon descent or Alienacion, Releifes, Waifes, strays, deodandes, fellons goodes, Goodes of fellons of themselves, of ffugitives and of Condemned Persons, Hawkinge, Huntinge, ffloweing, ffishinge and all other profittes and Perquissettes within the Aforesaid Mannor And to the Royalties thereof Apperteininge wee Estimate Communibus Annis .

£4 6 8
iiijli. vjs. viijd.

Total of the Quitt Rentes and Royalties in present possession are per Ann. .

xijli. ijs. jdob.
£12 2 1½

The Herriottes due to the Lord of the said Mannor ffrom the severall Tennantes thereof upon descent and Alienacion Accordinge to the Custome thereof wee Estimate to bee worth Communibus Annis .

30s.
xxxs.

This Grant to be Produced.

Memorand' the Herriottes Aforesaid together with the Herriottes happeninge within the severall Mannors of Presteigne, Knighton, Knocklas, Glawdestry, Southruralth, Southugree, Southnethian, Uchoyd, Royader, Comotoyder and Rislin are granted as wee are Informed to Sir Edmond Sawyer, Knight, for

a Certaine Tearme of yeares yett to come, which grante hath not beene produced to us but in Consideracion that if the said herriottes should bee disposed of Accordinge to the said grant for the future, The severall Mannors aforesaid would bee Mangled wee have in this Mannor as we shall in all the Rest vallud them as a Revercion after the said grante if it shall bee found good.

An abstract of the present Rentes, ffuture Improveintes and all other profittes of ye said Mannor.

The Quitt Rentes and Royalties	. xiiij <i>li</i> . xijs. idob.
The Rentes upon the Severall Leases	. £13 12 1½

Some totall of the present profittes.

The Improvement of the severall Leases within the said Mannor above the Now Reserved Rent is.

Soe the Totall of the ffuture Improveintes is—

Subscribed by HEN. MAKEPEACE, PETER PRICE, JO. LLOYD.

Ex'r per Will. Webb, Supervis' Gen'll. 1649.

[Endorsed] Ischoyd Mannor nuper Car. Regis.

Radnor Rec'd this 18th of February, 1649. Transmitted to the Surveyor Gen'll the same day. Returned the xxth of february.

MAKEPEACE.

PARLIAMENTARY SURVEYS.—No. 4.

Radnor Manerium de Knighton Cum Juribus Membris et Appurtenant.

A Survey of the Mannor of Knighton, with the rightes, Members and appurtenances thereof, lyeing and being in the County of Radnor, late parcell of the possessions of Charles Stuart, late King of England, made and taken by us whose names are hereunto subscribed in the Moneth of November, 1649, by vertue of a Comission grounded upon an Act of the Comons assembled in Parliament for sale of the Honors, Mannors and lands heretofore belonging to the late King, Queene and Prince, under the handes and Seales of five or more of the Trustees in the said Act named and appointed.

The Quit Rentes due to the Lord of the aforesaid Mannor of Knighton holding of the said Mannor in

free Soccage tenure, according to the Custome thereof and payable at Michaelmas and our Lady day per Ann. £6 6 10
vj*li.* vjs. xd.

The Rent of the Catchpole with the rightes Members and appurtenances whatsoever within the Borough of Knighton per Ann. 3s. 4d.
iij*s.* iiij*d.*

The Rent of the Market house for the Burgesses there newly built per ann. 1s.
js.

The Rent of Thirty-eight Burgages of each of them vjd. per ann. 19s.
xix*s.*

The Courts Baron and Court Leete fines and amercementes, Issues, post fines, fines upon descent or Alienacion, releifes, straves, Deodandes, ffellons goodes, Goodes of ffellons of themselves, of fugitives and of Condemned persons, Hawking, Hunting, ffishing, ffowling and all other profittes and perquisites within the aforesaid Mannor to the royalty thereof apperteyning, wee estimate Communibus Annis v*li.*
£5

Total of the Quitrents and Royalties in present possession per Ann. xij*li.* xs. ijd.
£12 10 2

The Heriotts due to the Lord of the said Mannor from the severall tenants thereof upon descent and alienacion according to the Custome thereof wee estimate Communibus Annis xls.
40*s.*

This Grant to be Produced.

Memorandum the heriottes aforesaid together with the heriottes happening within the Mannors of Glawdestry, Presteigne, Knocklas, Southnethian, Southugree, Royader, South-ruralth, Cowtayder, Ischoyd, Uchoyd, Rislin are granted as wee are informed to Sir Edmund Sawyer, Knight, for a certeine terme of yeares yett to come, which grant hath not bin as yet produced to us but in consideracion, that if the said heriottes should be disposed of according to the said grant for the future the severall Mannors aforesaid would be mangled, wee have in this Mannor (as wee shall in all the rest) value them as a revercion after the said Grant if it shal be found good.

The toll of Cattle and all the Tolls coming arising and groweing within the said Mannor of the Lord thereof, and all Comodities profittes and advantages to the said Toll or Tolls belonging or in any case appertaining by reason of a Markett kept weekly there every Thursday in the yeare, and of two ffaires

kept in the yeare, the one upon the sixt day of May, the other the one and twentieth of September Together with all Pickage, Stallage and other appurtenances to the said Toll belonging wee estimate to be worth Communibus Annis . . . *xxli.* £20

This Grant to be Produced.

Memorand' the aforesaid toll or tolls were as wee are informed granted to Thomas Blunden for three lives two whereof are dead but the said grant not being produced to us, though wee have used our diligence to gaine sight thereof, wee can Certifie noe further at present concerning the same.

Brian Crowther, Esq'r.

All that Wood and Wood land lyeing and being within the Lordshipp of Knighton aforesaid comonly called the freeth in the possession of Brian Crowther Esq'r abutting upon the Mountaine South and bounded Northwest with the way that leadeth from Knighton to Radnor contain by Estimacion *xxli.* *xs.* 70 Acres. Rent per Ann. . . . £10 10

Worth per acre ijs.

And all that watercourse running over the Comon pasture of the Towne of Knighton to the Corne Mill lately built by Edward Price conteyning in breadth eight foote, and in length one hundred yardes from the water called Teame to the land of Edward Price Esq'r adjoining to the aforesaid Corne mill on the East part in Knighton aforesaid. Rent *ij.* *vjd.* per Ann. . . . 2s. 6d.

Worth per annum ijs. vjd.

Brian Crowther.

And all that the scite of the Castle in Knighton aforesaid in the possession of Brian Crowther Esq'r abutting north to the bread markett and bounded South with the house of Hugh ap Edwards containing by estimacion 1 acre. Rent per Ann. . . . *vij.* *s.* 8s.

Worth per annum viijs.

Tho: Howells.

And all that one close of pasture in Sogenhales alias Jenkins Hallis Commonly called the Knapp in the occupacion of Tho: Howells abutting South on the free Landes of Thomas Howells and bounded

north with the Landes called Jenkins Hallis, and
on the west to Joane Lewis widow, containing by
estimacion 6 Acres. Rent per Ann. 30s.
xxxs.

Worth per acre vs.

Tho. Howells.

And all that one Corne close in the possession of
the said Thomas Howells abutting north upon a
Leasow of Joane Lewis, and bounded south with
a Meadow of Thomas Howells conteyning by esti-
macion iij. Acres. Rent per Ann. xvs.
15s.

Worth per acre vs.

Tho. Howells.

And all that one parcell of inclosed groundes in
the possession of Thomas Howells abutting on the
East on a Leasow of Joane Lewis and bounded
west with a little lane that leadeth to the ffrith
conteyning by Estimacion 1 Acre. Rent per Ann. xs.
10s.

Worth per annum xs.

Tho. Howells.

And all that parcell of Meadow ground called the
Rose meadow in the occupacion of Thomas Howells
abutting north on a meadow of James Rice, and
bounded South with a Meadow of Joane Lewis by
estimacion $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre. Rent per Ann. iij^s. iij^d.
3s. 4d.

Worth per annum iij^s. iij^d.

Margarett James.

All that one stubble close in the occupacion of
Margarett James abutting upon a Land on the North
west that leadeth to Presteygne and bounded East
with a parcell of Landes of Thomas Howells called
the ffeild close conteyning by estimacion 6 Acres
Rent per Ann. xxs.
20s.

Worth per acre iij^s. iij^d.

Marg. James.

And all that one close in the possession of Mar-
garett James abutting upon the Highway South
and bounded with an Acre of James Simondes on
the North by Estimacion 2 Acres. Rent per Ann. xs.
10s.

Worth per acre vs.

John Lewis.

And all that one Gore Meadow adjoining to the Swine Markett and abutting thereunto and bounded with Mr. Brian Crowthers Orchard on the North in the possession of John Lewis per estimacion 2 Acres Rent per Ann.

26s. 8d.
xxvjs. viijd.

Worth per Acre xiijs. iiijd.

James ap James.

And all that one close in the possession of James ap James abutting South upon the high way, and lying upon the highway side conteyning by estimation 1 Acre. Rent per Ann.

6s. 8d.
vis. viijd.

Worth per Annum vjs. viiij*l*.

John Wooly.

And all that one stubble close called Skilla Gartha, in the possession of John Woolley abutting upon the Highway that leadeth to Knocklas on the South and bounded with the Landes of John Wooley on the North conteynyng by estimation v Acres. Rent per Ann.

xls.
40s.

Worth per acre vjs. viij*d*.

Brian Crowther.

And all that one Stubble close Comonly called the Dolida in the possession of Bryan Crowther Esq'r abutting north on the freehold of John Wolley and bounded South with the landes of the said Bryan Crowther Esq'r conteyning by Estimacion 4 Acres. Rent per Ann. . . .

x's.
40s.

Worth per acre xs.

Stephen Sancku.

And all that Cottage with certaine arable landes and pasture and woody ground Comonly called Comgilla in the occupacion of Stephen Sanckly abutting west upon the Lands of Edward Price and bounded East with a Tenement of Bryan Crowthers freehold, and South with the Landes of Mr. John Bartley conteyning by Estimacion 18 Acres. Rent per Ann.

iii/lz. xs.
£4 10

Worth per acre vs.

Owen ap Evan.

And all that wood and woody ground comonly called Whitterley with a stubble close thereunto adjoining being part thereof in the possession of Owen ap Evan in the parish of Knockles abutting north to ye highway leading to Knockles and on the East upwardes towards the mountaine, and bounded west with the Landes of Adam Crowther conteying by estimacion 70 Acres. Rent per Ann. xiiij*li*.
£14 0

Worth per acre iiij*s*.

There is upon the said ground of Whitterley 160 smalle Oakes and stumps which wee estimate to be worth xiiij*li*.

And the said Bryan Crowther hath since the first Survey cutt downe and carryed away 20 of these Trees. But he is allowed by the Lease necessary Bootes.

Memorand' that the last before mencioned particulars were by King James by his Letters Patents dated the 19th day of January in the 4th year of his raigne (amongst other things) granted and lett unto Edmond Sawyer gent. for the Tearme of fforty yeares from

[blank.]

Redd. liijs. vjd.

by and at the yearly rent of liijs. vjd. payeable at Lady day and Michaelmas by Equall porcions.

But are worth upon Improvement over xxxvj*li*. xvijs. viij*d*.
and above the said rent per annum £36 17 8d.

There is to come of this Grant on the [blank] day of [blank] And the said Bryan Crowther by meane Assignmentes is the immediat Tennant.

There is a Court Baron belonging to the said Mannor kept at Knighton at the will of the Lord.

A Court Leete also at the usual times, viz., at Lady Day and Michaelmas.

A Rentall of the said Mannor.—Freeholders.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Richard Lewis	. 00	01	06	Thomas Davies	. 00	01	00
Samuel Bartley	. 00	04	04	More on Thomas Davies	. 00	01	03
John Woolley .	. 00	13	04	David Vaughan	. 00	01	00
John Davies .	. 00	06	04	Richard Cates .	. 00	02	00
Hugh Mathews	. 00	02	06	Thomas King .	. 00	01	00

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
John Hughes .	.00	01	00	William Bowen	.00	00	04
John Reeve .	.00	00	04	Moncks house .	.00	03	00
William Maynard	.00	02	04	David Thomas .	.00	01	08
John Haynord	.00	01	00	Alice Lewis .	.00	00	04
Robt. Cutler .	.00	01	04	John Rogers .	.00	00	04
John Piccardes	.00	02	00	More for himselfe	.00	00	08
Geo. Merricke	.00	01	06	for Annes house that was	.00	01	00
Walter Powell	.00	03	06	Edward Bowen	.00	00	04
John Merredith	.00	01	04	Edward Harris	.00	00	04
Elias Merrick .	.00	00	04	James ap Hugh	.00	01	00
John Morris .	.00	01	06	James ap John	.00	01	00
James Davies .	.00	00	06	Morris Watkins	.00	05	00
John Hughes .	.00	00	04	Lewis Powell .	.00	01	00
Owen Moore .	.00	01	01	John Dee	.00	01	00
John Treavor .	.00	01	00	Morris Meredith	.00	00	08
James ap John	.00	01	00	The Wood house	.00	02	06
Rice Prundle .	.00	00	06	Mary Williams	.00	00	10
Thomas Smith	.00	00	04	The Lordes Meadow	.00	06	08
Richard Lewis .	.00	01	06	Capps Meadow	.00	02	06
Jo. Woolley for another				David Vaughan	.00	01	04
house .	.00	01	00	Edward Johns	.00	00	04
for another house	.00	00	06	Griffith Laurence	.00	00	06
Roger Mulliner	.00	02	00	Walter Rice .	.00	00	04
Edward Smith	.00	00	04	Meredith Mercer	.00	00	06
David Dicker .	.00	01	00	Richard Tilly .	.00	00	04
John Griffith .	.00	00	04	Hugh ap Edward	.00	00	04
Tho. Mantle .	.00	00	04	John Clayne .	.00	00	04
The widow Mathews	.00	01	00	John Price .	.00	00	06
Mr. Maynard .	.00	00	04	Clements House	.00	00	04
John Prosser .	.00	00	04	Mr. Powells house	.00	00	04
John Merdith	.00	00	04	John Davies .	.00	00	04
Richard Young	.00	02	00	Robert ap Evans	.00	01	06
John Saunders	.00	01	03	Rice Powell .	.00	01	06
Richard Powell	.00	00	06	the old Dye house	.00	00	06
for Bowens house	.00	01	00	Thomas Gardner	.00	00	06
for Wrinckbridges house	.00	06	00	John Amyes .	.00	00	06
James ap John	.00	00	04	Robert Hughes	.00	00	04
Rice Powell .	.00	02	08	William Pye .	.00	00	02
Katheren Stich	.00	00	06	Walter Morris .	.00	00	04
Thomas Heath	.00	01	00	Rose Peeters .	.00	00	04
Adam Crowther	.00	03	04				
Mathew Reece	.00	00	08				
Monckes Barne	.00	01	00				
Robert Nicoles	.00	00	04				
				Sum total is	06	06	10

An Abstract of the present Rentes, future Improvements
and all other profittes of the said Mannor of Knighton.

	£12	5	2
The Quitt Rentes and Royalties . . .	xij <i>li.</i>	vs.	ij <i>d.</i>
	£2	14	0
The Rentes upon the severall Leases holden . . .	ij <i>li.</i>	xiijs.	
Summa total of the present profitte per	xv <i>li.</i>	iijs.	ij <i>d.</i>
Ann.	£15	4	2
	£2		
The Herriottes said to be demised per Ann. . .	ij <i>li.</i>		

The Tolls of Marketts and fayres per annum . *xxli.*
£20

The Improvement of the several Leases *xxxvjli. xvij^s. viij^d.*
within the said Mannor as per Ann. . £36 17 8

Summa total of future Improvements *lxxiiijli. xjs. xd.*
is per Annum . . . £74 11 10

Ex'r p' Will. Webb, Supervis Gen'll.
1649.

HEN. MAKEPEACE.
JOHN MARRYOTT.
PETER PRICE.
JO. LLOYD.

[Endorsed] Radnor Knighton Mannor
nuper Car. Regis.

Rec'd this 1st day of March, 1649.
Transmitted to the Surveyor G'all the same day.
Returned the 4th of March.

MAKEPEACE.

PARLIAMENTARY SURVEYS.—No. 5.

Radnor Manerium de Knocklas Cum Juribus Membris et Appurtenant'.

A Survey of the Mannor of Knocklas, with the rights, members and appurtenances thereof, lyeing and being in the County of Radnor, late parcell of the Possession of Charles Stuart, late King of England, made and taken by us whose names are hereunto subscribed in the Month of Jan'ry, 1649, by vertue of a Comission grounded upon an Act of the Comons assembled in Parliament for sale of the Honors Mannors and lands heretofore belonging to the late King, Queene and Prince, under the hands and seales of five or more of the Trustees in the said Act named and appointed.

The Quit rent due to the Lord of the said Mannor within the Towne and Borough of Knocklas, holding of the said Mannor in free Soccage tenure, according to the Custome thereof and payeable at Michaelmas and Lady day per Annum . . . *iiijli. xvjs. ix¹/₂d.*
£4 16 9¹/₂

The Rent of the Catchpoole with the rightes members and appurtenances whatsoever within the Mannor and Borough of Knocklas per annum . *iijs. iiij^d.*
3s. 4d.

The Courts Baron and Courts Leete fines and amerciamentes of Court, yssnes, post fines, fines upon descent or Alienacion, Releifes, Waifes, Strayes, Deodands, fellons goodes, Goodes of fellons of themselves, of fugitives and of Condemned persons, Hawking, Hunting, ffishing, fflowing and all other profittes and perquisites within the aforesaid Mannor to the royalties thereof apperteyning, wee estimate Communibus Annis

iijs.
4s.

Total of the Quit rentes and royalties
in present possession are per annum

ix*li*. *j* $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*.
£9 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

The Heriottes due to the Lord of the said Mannor from the severall Tenantes thereof upon descent and Alienacion according to the Custome thereof wee estimate Communibus Annis

x*ls*.
40s.

This Grant to be Produced.

Memorand' the heriots aforesaid together with the heriottes happening within the severall Mannors of Presteygne, Knighton, Glawdestry, Southruralth, Southugree, Southnethian, Ischoyd, Uchoyd, Royader, Rislin and Comotoyder are granted as wee are informed to Sir Edmund Sawyer, Knight, for a certaine terme of yeares yet to come, which grant hath not bin produced to us, but in consideracion that if the said Heriottes should be disposed of according to the said grant for the future the severall Mannors aforesaid would be mangled, wee have in this Mannor (as wee shall in all the rest) value them as a revercion after the said Grant (if it shal be found good).

John Merrick.

All that one parcell of arable Land lying in Keven why Dantin in the Parish of Begoldy and Borough of Knocklas in the County of Radnor with the appurtenances in the occupacion of John Merrick abutting north upon the Mountaine and bounded west with the Highway that leadeth to the House of Richard Merricke by Estimacion 1 acre

Qr. the Comencement.

Memorand' that the last recited premises were by King James his Letters Patentes dated the 29th day of January in the 4th yeare of his raigne granted and to ffarme let unto Sir Edmond Sawyer gent. (amongst other things) for fortie yeares from
[blank].

Redd: ijli.

at the yearely rent of $ij\frac{1}{4}$, payeable to the late
Kinges Receivor. But the same is worth upon
improvement over and above the said yearely rent
per annum vjs. viijd.
6s. 8d.

Hugh Mathews.

And all that one parcell of Meadow ground with
the appurtenances in Knocklas comonly called
Wirglothgam, abutting to the Highway that
leadeth from Knocklas to Begely on the South,
and bounded west with a little feild called Mayes
Tribute by Estimacion 2 acres

And all that other parcell of Meadow ground
called Eroo Alth in Knocklas aforesaid abutting
to the fforrest of Knocklas on the South, and
bounded with the Landes of Evan Mathews on the
North conteyning by estimation 4 Acres
In toto 6 Acres

Memorand' that the last before mencioned premisses were
by Letters Patentes the 29th day of January by King James
in the fourth yeare of his raigne granted unto Edmond Sawyer
gent. amongst other thinges for fortie yeares from
[blank]

Redd: xijli.

at the yearely rent of $xij\frac{1}{2}$. to his said Majestys
Receivor But is worth upon Improvement over
and above the said yearely rent per annum xxxs.
30s.

There is [blank] yeares yet to come of this Lease
and the said Hugh Mathews by severall meane
Assignmentes is the imediate Tenant in being.

Evan Davies.

All that one parcell of arable Land and pasture
comonly called Boynnycrogleth in the Parish of
Begeldy and Borough of Knocklas in the occupacion
of Evan Davies abutting to the way that leadeth
from Knocklas to the Parish Church of Begeldy on
the South and on the East north and west bounded
with the Lands of the said Evan Davies conteyning
by Estimacion 1 acre

Memorand' the said premisses were granted by King James
his Letters Patentes dated the 29th day of January in the
fourth yeare of his raigne to Sir Edmond Sawyer, Knight,
amongst other thinges for fortie yeares from
[blank]

Redd: ijli.

at the yearely rent of ijli. payable to the late
Kinges Receivor

But the same is worth upon Improvement over vjs.
and above the said rent per annum 6s.

And the said Evan Davies by severall meane
Assignmentes is the imediate Tenant in being.
There is [blank] yet to come of this Grant.

Widdow Griffith.

All that one parcell of arable Land in the Parish
of Begeldy and Mannor of Knocklas aforesaid
comonly called and knowne by the name of Lloyncy
giriddin in the County of Radnor abutting on the
west and north part of the Lands of Morgan
Griffithes and bounded south with the Lands of
Humphrey Walcott Esq'r in the possession of the
widow Griffith conteyning by estimacion 2 Acres

Qr. the Comencement.

Memorand' that the last before mencioned premisses were
by King James his Letters Patentes granted to Sir Edmond
Sawyer Knight, for fortie yeares dated the 29th day of
January in the fourth yeare of his raigne (amongst many other
things) from

[blank]

Redd: iiijd.

at the yearely rent of foure pence to be paid to the
late Kinges Receivor at Lady Day and Michaelmas
by equall porcions.

But the premisses are worth upon improvement iiij s.
over and above the said rent per annum 4s.

There is yet to come of this grant [blank] yeares.
And the widdow Griffith is the imediate Tenant in
being.

Qr. ye Grant. Edward Millard.

All that one parcell of Meadow ground comonly
called and knowne by the name of Guirglothy
Llan in the parrish of Ilapp (?) Mannor of Knocklas
and County of Radnor, abutting north to the landes
of George Counly and bounded with the River
Priden and westward to the landes of Evan
Phillipps conteyning by Estimacion 2 Acres

And all that the scite of ye Castle called the Bulcha in Knocklas abutting North to ye florrest of Knocklas, and bounded south with Cownyles owin freelands, and Northeast to the Castle hills in the possession of Edward Millard . . . 7 Acres

Qr. the Comencement.

Memorand' the said premisses were graunted by King James by his Letters Patentes dated the 29th day of January in the 4 year of his raigne to S'r Edmond Sawyer Knight amongst other things for 40 yeares from

[blank]

Redd: viijd.

at the yearely rent of viijd. to be paid to the late Kings Receivors at Lady Day and Michaelmas by equal porcions.

But they are worth upon Improvement over 43s. 4d.
and above ye said Rent per Ann. . . . xliijs. iiijd.

There is yet to come of this Graunt [blank] yeares
And the said Edward Millard is the imediate Tenant in being.

James Davies.

All that one parcell of meadowe ground called and knowne by ye name of Wiglad-dds in the parish of Begeldy and Mannor of Knocklas in the occupacion of Ann Davies, abutting West upon the landes of Hugh Price, and bounded south with ye landes of Hugh Mathewes Conteyning by Estimacion . . . 6 Acres

Qr. the Comencement.

Memorand' that these premisses were granted by King James by his Letters Pattentes dated the 29th day of January in the 4th year of his reigne (amongst other things) for 43 yeares to S'r Edmond Sawyer Knight from

[blank]

Redd: ijs. vjd.

At the yearely rent of ijs. vjd. payable to the late Kings Receivors

But the same is worth upon Improvement over
and above the said Rent per Ann. . . . xxxs.

There is unexpired of this grant [blank] yeares
and James Davies is ye imediate Tenant

Owen ap Evan.

All that parcell of meadowe ground comonly knowne by the name of Nine Acres in the possession of Owen ap Evan, lieing and being in Knocklas in the County of Radnor, abutting West upon the freehold of the said Owen ap Evan, And bounded south with the highway that leadeth from Knocklas to Knighton Conteyning by Estimacion .

10 Acres

Worth per acre xiijs. iiijd.

vjli. xiijs. iiijd.

In toto per Ann.

£6 13 4

And all that one parcell of meadowe ground Comonly called by the [name of the] Lordes meadow lieing in Knocklas aforesaid, in the possession of the aforesaid Owen ap Evan, abutting West upon the landes of Owen ap Evan, and bounded south with the highway that leadeth from Knocklas to Knighton, conteyning by Estimacion .

12 Acres

Worth per acre xijs.

£7 4

In toto per Ann.

vjli. iijs.

The Grantes aforesaid to be Produced and Cleered.

Memorand' that these twoe last Mencioned parcells of meadowe ground as we are informed were granted by Lease to Owen ap Evan, but not any Lease being by him to us produced we returne it as in present possession.

Memorand' Wee Could not see any originall graunt of any of the premisses before mencioned, which is the Reason, they are not more perfectly returned.

A Rentall of the said Mannor.—Freeholders.

	li.	s.	d.		li.	s.	d.
Samuel Powell, Esq'r	.00	00	6	Vavouser Powell	.00	00	02
Owen Evans for Ware-				John Steevens	.00	00	02
tissa	.00	13	4	James Joice	.00	00	02
Hugh Price	.00	10	6	Thomas Rotherick	.00	00	04
Hugh Mathews	.00	12	5	David Powell	.00	00	04
Evan Davies	.00	05	0	Evan Phillippis	.00	00	02
Richard Davies	.00	05	6	Richard Griffithes	.00	00	04
George Counly	.00	09	2	William Browne	.00	00	08
John Gray	.00	03	0	Richard Banckes	.00	00	06
Richard Young	.00	04	8	Hugh Mathews	.00	02	08
Owen Morgan	.00	02	2	Richard Davies	.00	01	00
David Rotherike	.00	00	10	The Herbage of the			
Will'm ap Edward	.00	02	0	forrest	.00	13	04
Thomas Edwards	.00	00	3	The sight of the Castle	.00	02	00
Meredith ap Edward	.00	00	2	Ann Davies	.00	02	06
Lewis Thomas	.00	00	9½				
Thomas Morris	.00	00	3				
Guy Howelles	.00	00	3				
David Rotherick	.00	00	08	Total some is	.4	16	9½

There is a Cort Baron belonging to the said Mannor kept at Knocklas at the Will of the Lord A Cort Leete also at the usual times (*viz*.) at Lady Day and Michaelmas.

An abstract of the present Rentes, future Improvementes and all other the proffittes of the said Mannor of Knocklas.

	£9	0	1½
The quitt rentes and Royalties per Ann.	ixli.	1½d.	
The Rentes upon the severall Leases holden per	iijs.	xd.	
Ann.	4s.	10d.	
	£9	4	11½
Summa total of the present proffittes per Ann.	ixli.	iiijd.	xj½d.
The yearly value of the Herriottes said to be	£2		
in graunt	ijli.		
The Improvementes of the severall Leases within	xixli.	xvijs.	iiijd.
the said Mannor is per Ann,	£19	17	4
Suma Total of the future Improvementes is	xxxli.	ijs.	iiij½d.
per Ann.	£30	2	3½

Ex'r per Will. Webb Supervis' Gen'll.

1649

JO. LLOYD.
HEN. MAKEPEACE.
PETER PRICE.
JOHN MARRYOTT.

[Endorsed] Knocklas Manour
Radnor nuper Car. Regis.

Rec'd this 1st of March, 1649.

Transmitted to the Surveyor Generall the same day.

MAKEPEACE.

(To be continued.)

DISCOVERIES MADE ON THE FRIAR'S ESTATE, BANGOR.

BY HAROLD HUGHES, A.R.I.B.A., AND P. SHEARSON GREGORY,
M.S.A.

THE April number of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1898,¹ contained a short notice of discoveries made on the Friar's Estate, Bangor, with a sketch-plan showing portions of ancient walls, and a suggested arrangement of the buildings of which they once formed part.

All subsequent discoveries tend to confirm the general correctness of the plan there indicated.

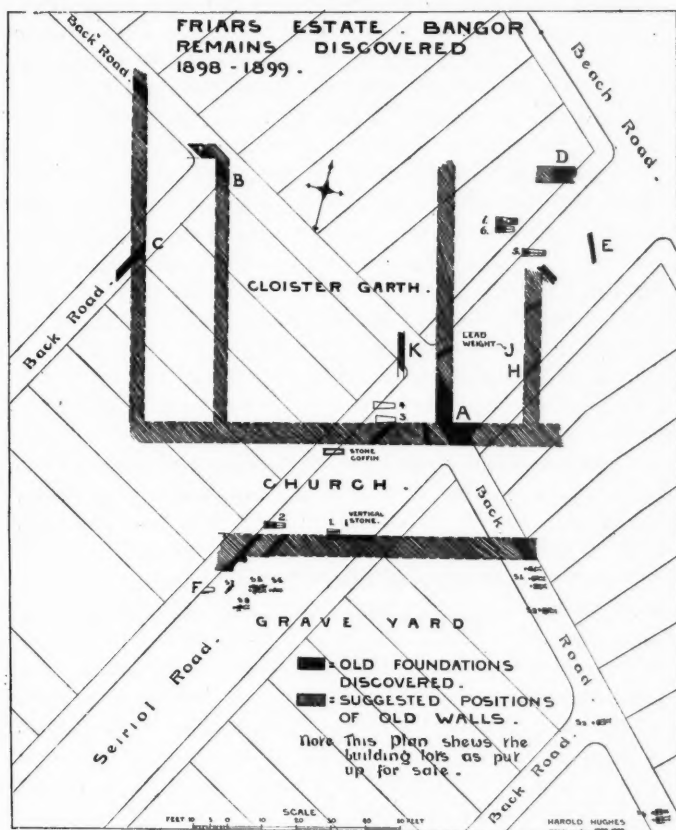
The Friar's Estate had recently been sold to a syndicate, who had made the purchase with the view of converting it into building property. The first discoveries were made while making roads for this purpose. When the matter was brought before the members of the syndicate, they were not prepared to grant permission to carry out any systematic series of excavations. All discoveries have resulted from chance utilitarian works happening to bring to light ancient foundations or objects of interest. The positions of the finds are indicated on the plan here reproduced.

A main sewer runs along the back roads north-west and south-east of the new Seiriol Road, crossing the latter. Minor sewers branch into this from the other back roads, and run up and down Seiriol Road. In excavating trenches for the formation of the sewers, most of the foundations were brought to light. They are constructed, for the most part, of large sea boulders carefully fitted together, but contain a few blocks of conglomerate and limestone.

Where the main sewer runs across Seiriol Road, a large mass of masonry was cut through, at A on plan. This masonry is at the junction of two walls at right

¹ *Arch. Camb.*, 5th Ser., vol. xv, p. 196.

angles to each other, one running slightly north of east, the other west of north. For practical purposes, they may be said to run east and west, and north and south respectively. In sinking other trenches, the wall



Friar's Estate, Bangor.—Plan.

running east and west was cut through in two places further west, while that running north and south in one place north of the portion marked A. The walls were first struck about two feet below the surface

of the ground. The height of walling then standing was 3 ft. 10 ins. The wall running east and west measured 6 ft. 2 ins. in thickness, that north and south about 4 ft. 9 ins.

At a distance 26 ft. south of the east and west wall, portions of a wall lying parallel with it were unearthed. The first portion discovered was in sinking the trench in the south-east back road, when a wall 5 ft. 10 ins. wide was brought to light. The same wall was touched at three different places where it crossed Seiriol Road. In the latter three cases, the excavations were only carried down to a slight depth below the upper remaining portions of the wall. At the most western point of this wall it was found to be of extra width, as shown on the plan. No further foundations were come across in sinking the deep trench which was continued south-east of this wall in the back road, nor were any discovered to the south in Seiriol Road, though in this direction no deep excavations were made.

Carrying the trench along the back road north-west of Seiriol Road, a portion of a light wall, 1 ft. 9 ins. wide, was come across. This wall was parallel with and about 9 ft. 3 ins. distant from the main wall first mentioned running north and south. Its foundations were carried to no great depth, a thickness of only about 1 ft. remaining standing. No further foundations were discovered in this trench till it arrived at the junction of the back road parallel with and north-west of Seiriol Road, at the point marked B on plan. Here, a wall, 4 ft. wide, running approximately north and south was cut through. This wall is about 60 ft. west of the main wall, running north from A. A wall about 4 ft. wide running west, joined at right angles to wall B, was next discovered. Continuing the trench further north-west, the foundations of another wall about 4 ft. wide, running approximately north and south, were cut through. A second portion of this wall was discovered in the back road parallel to Seiriol Road, in

the position marked c on the plan, This latter portion would seem to indicate a wall about 8 ft. 3 ins. wide. The excavation, however, may be at the return angle of a wall. The distance between this wall and the next wall to the east is about 20 ft. 3 ins. Continuing the trenches in the latter two back roads, no further foundations were discovered.

Returning to Seiriol Road, portions of a wall about 4 ft. 6 ins. in width, approximately parallel with and about 20 ft. 9 ins. distant from the wall running north from A, were discovered. This wall would seem to terminate northwards at a wall running east and west. A portion of such a wall was brought to light, but not sufficient to note its exact direction. A small portion of another wall, running east and west, was discovered at D on plan. A portion of a wall, which may have been a wall running north and south, and joining the latter two, was touched at E, but insufficiently to show its exact direction.

We have, therefore, evidence of two main walls running east and west, with a distance of 26 ft. between them. Apart from all other evidence, taking into consideration that no foundations were discovered further south, although the trench in the back road was sunk to a considerable depth, we may conclude that these walls formed the outer walls of a building, the space between being roofed over. Running at right angles to the north of this building we have four main walls, the two western being separated about 20 ft. Then comes a space of about 60 ft. between the second and third walls, while the third and fourth are separated by about 20 ft. The 60 ft. division we may take for granted was for the most part open to the sky, with the exception of light structures, which may have been supported against the enclosing walls. On the east and west of this space would have been ranges of buildings about 20 feet wide internally. The eastern of these two sets of buildings did not continue of this width, but after running 20 ft. wide for

some little distance, it was extended out further to the east.

Within the main building, running east and west, were discovered three objects of special interest : two richly-carved sepulchral slabs, and one stone coffin. The slabs are those figured Nos. 1 and 2, and both lay close to the southern wall. The stone coffin lay close to, and parallel with, the northern wall. Along the inside of the southern wall, where it crosses Seiriol Road, particularly between the wall and slab No. 1, were discovered many fragments of the lead fret of leaded lights (see fig. 2). A much corroded fragment



FIG. 1
PORTION OF
STANCHEON AND
SADDLE BAR.



FIG. 2
PORTION OF
LEADWORK OF
GLAZING.



IRON OBJECT
FOUND IN
A GRAVE.
FIG. 3.



Objects discovered on Friar's Estate, Bangor.

of an iron stanchion and saddle-bar, at the point where they cross each other, was discovered (see fig. 1). We have, therefore, evidence that this wall contained windows with leaded lights. Close to the same wall, on the inside, where it crossed the back road, were found several fragments of plaster still retaining very smooth and perfect faces.

South of this building, both in Seiriol Road and the back road, numerous skeletons were discovered, but not a single slab. The bodies seem to have been buried simply in the soil and covered over. At first on plan, there were certainly some rough stones, but it is doubtful whether they covered a grave.

Immediately north of this building, in the 60 ft.

space, close to and parallel with each other, two sepulchral slabs were found. They are figured 3 and 4 on plan. They were absolutely plain, without inscription or carving.

The whole of the ground, from A to H, bore signs of fire, being covered with a thick layer of charcoal, burnt pieces of wood, burnt fragments of clay (tile or brick). Large pieces of lead, bearing the appearance of having run down in a melted state, were discovered. Possibly they may have formed part of a lead roof. A further object of interest, found some distance below the surface, at J on the plan, was an immense lead weight, measuring 1 ft. 2 ins. in length and 5 ins. in diameter. Near it a second weight, $7\frac{1}{2}$ ins. long and $2\frac{1}{4}$ ins. in diameter was found. Each weight had an iron ring let into the lead at one end. That of the larger weight was broken. The weights at present are at Mr. Owen's foundry, Hiracl.

Further to the north were discovered three carved sepulchral slabs, of special interest, marked Nos. 5, 6 and 7.

The data we now have before us is sufficient to suggest the class of buildings to which these remains belonged, and approximately their general arrangement. The long building running east and west, with its sepulchral slabs and lead-glazed windows, the open burial-ground on the south side, the open court between ranges of buildings on the north side, would appear with almost a certainty to have been a church. The enclosed open court at once suggests a cloister garth. We therefore conclude that the remains formed part of a house of a confraternity. The width of the cloister garth is certainly very small, but probably the whole house would not have been large. The small foundations at K may have supported a lean-to roof over the eastern walk of the cloister. The sepulchral slabs may have helped to pave the southern walk. The sacristy and chapter-house probably occupied the buildings east of the

cloister garth. We might expect the chapter-house to occupy the position where the sepulchral slabs, Nos. 5, 6 and 7, were found, though possibly there was a chapel here; and to find the refectory to the north of the cloister garth, while the cellars would occupy the range of buildings to the west. In the brief report before referred to, it was suggested that the thick wall discovered in the back road, west of the buildings, formed part of the entrance. This would be in a not-unusual position.

SEPULCHRAL SLABS.

The illustrations of Slabs No. 1, 2 and 5, are from sketches made with the assistance of photographs kindly taken by Mr. J. E. Griffith, of Bryndinas, Upper Bangor. The history of these slabs since their discovery is as follows: for several months they were stacked in a small hut used by the workmen for storing their tools and having their meals in. During this time they received certain damage. On the removal of the hut, they were placed unprotected on the open ground. Here they remained a considerable time, and all efforts to get them removed to a place of safety were futile. It was during this time that Mr. Griffith obtained photographs of the slabs. Permission at last was given to the authorities of the University College of North Wales, to remove and take charge of them for their better protection. They were carefully conveyed to the College Buildings in January, 1899. Owing to a claim being made by the contractor to the estate to the possession of the slabs, the College authorities, not wishing to have in their charge any objects with a disputed title, they were again removed. Since February, 1899, the slabs have been stacked in the Slate Yard of Mr. Edward Jones, Mount Street, Bangor, where they still remain. We understand that Mr. Rowland Williams, of Colwyn Bay, the contractor, has determined to present these slabs to the Museum

of the University College of North Wales, and has kindly offered to mount them on slate slabs.

Slab No. 1, was discovered 1 ft. 2 ins. below the surface of the ground. Although the ground was excavated to a depth of 4 ft. 6 ins. beneath the slab, no human remains were discovered. The slab was situated parallel to and 6 ins. from the south wall of the church. The head of the slab was missing. The remaining portion is broken in two. The slab is ornamental with carved foliage, most gracefully arranged, running up the middle of the slab and forming a stem. The foliage consists of three-lobed leaves, and starting from two large sprays at the base is a repetition of a three-leaved figure, a centre leaf supported by two side leaves. As no two leaves repeat, but all differ in detail, size and height, there is no sense of weariness or hardness produced. From the appearance of the foliage, we should not imagine the slab would belong to a period later than 1300.

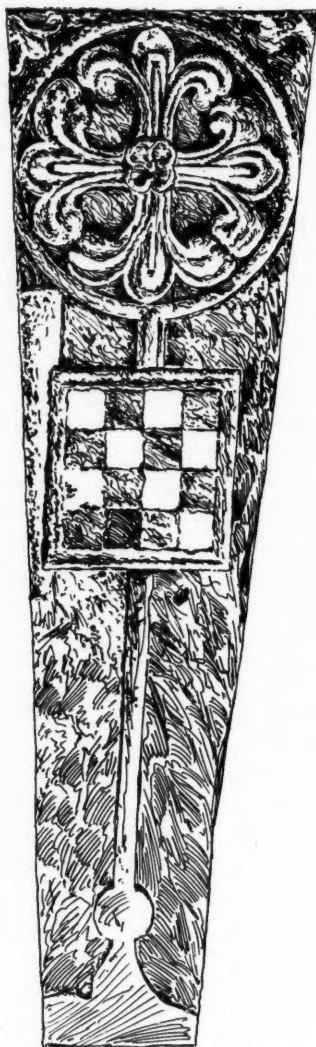
There is a certain barbaric rudeness in the arrangement and execution of the ornament on Slab No. 2. This slab was found within the church, about 12 ft. west of No. 1. The main feature in the decorations is a floriated cross. The carving of the foliated head is extremely bold. Over the stem of the cross is a square figure charged with armorial bearings. Writing of similar armorial bearings on a slab in Gyffin Church, the late Mr. Stephen Williams remarked that the heraldry looked more English than Welsh.¹ The squares shown white on the drawing are filled with lead. While the slab lay in the workmen's hut the lead was picked out of one of the squares. Appearing under the square figure on the left of the slab is some object resembling the scabbard of a sword. The carving in the right-hand corner, above the foliated cross-head, has come out indistinctly in Mr. Griffiths' photograph. Possibly it might be shown in greater detail should an opportunity

¹ *Arch. Camb.*, 5th Ser., vol. xii, p. 115.



Harold Hughes.

SLAB 1.



Harold Hughes.

SLAB 2.

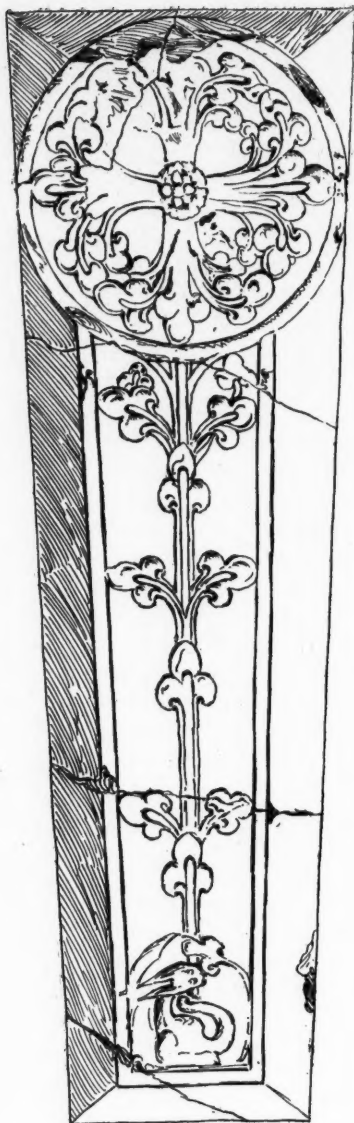
Friar's Estate, Bangor.

be given to carefully examine the original slab again. We do not recollect having seen a similar arrangement of ornamentation on any slab previously. The carved foliage has the appearance of being of late thirteenth-century workmanship.

Slab No. 3, found outside and close to the northern wall of the church, is without ornamentation. It is 5 ft. 7 ins. long, 1 ft. 9½ ins. wide at the head, and 1 ft. 1¼ ins. at the foot. It was discovered about 1 ft. 9 ins. below the ground level. It has now disappeared.

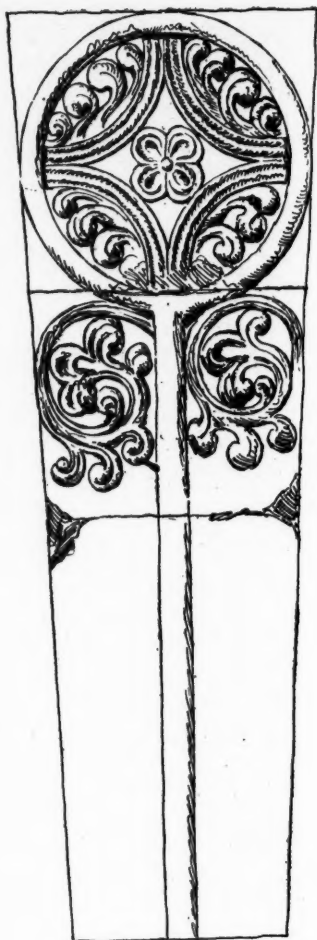
Slab No. 4 is similar, and parallel to No. 3. Its length is 6 ft. 0½ in., the width at the head is 1 ft. 9 ins., and at the foot 1 ft. 3 ins. This slab was broken after it was taken up. It has now disappeared.

Slab No. 5 was the first discovered on the 26th of February, 1898. It lies considerably to the north of the building we suggest formed the church. When taken up it was scarcely damaged. When removing it from the workmen's hut, it was broken into two pieces, and subsequently it was reduced to five fragments, and some of the most excellent foliage irreparably damaged. The ornamentation consists of a floriated cross extending the length of the slab. The edges of the slab are deeply bevelled. A dragonesque beast holds the root of the stem of the cross in its mouth. The beast was developed very faintly in Mr. J. E. Griffiths' photograph, and doubtless, it could be shown in further detail should an opportunity be given of examining the original slab again. The stem is formed of a series of three three-lobed leaves one above the other, with three-lobed leaves branching out on either side at intervals. Each arm of the cross consists of three main stems, each terminating with a three-lobed leaf, and two subsidiary stems terminating in the same manner, appearing below the former. An open flower is placed at the crossing. In delicacy of carving this slab far excels any of the others found, but there is a certain uncultured grandeur in Nos. 2 and 7, which compensates for the finer feelings



SLAB 5.

Friar's Estate, Bangor.



SLAB 6.

expressed by the carver of this slab. The carving certainly bears evidence of having been worked in the thirteenth century.

Slabs Nos. 6 and 7 were only discovered this summer. They lie further north, on a plot of land at the corner of Beach and Seiriol Roads, bought by Inspector Rowlands of the Police Force, and on which he is now erecting a house. Their former positions are now occupied by the kitchen fireplace. Inspector Rowlands removed the slabs to the Police Station. At present they stand outside the building; and it was in this position, through the courtesy of Inspector Rowlands, that the sketches were made to illustrate this article.¹

Slab No. 6 is in three pieces. A lower portion is apparently missing. A floriated cross with a long stem forms the main feature in the decoration. The head is contained within a circle, but differs from all the other examples found, in an absence of floriated arms. The ends of the various arms in this instance are joined together with curved lines, the spaces between these and the outer circle being filled with foliage. A large single flower occupies the centre of the head. The upper parts of the spaces on either side the long stem are filled with foliage. The ornamentation is certainly of thirteenth-century character.

The decoration of Slab No. 7 consists of a floriated cross, a shield, a sword in a scabbard, and foliage. The head of the cross is contained within a circle. A boss in the form of a flower occupies the crossing. The cross, within the circle, has four main arms, and four subsidiary arms placed diagonally, each terminated with a three-lobed leaf. A shield lies on the long stem. The carver has obtained a much better outline to the shield on the one side than on the other. A sword in a scabbard lies beneath, placed diagonally left to right, looking at the stone. The pommel is floriated, the

¹ Slabs Nos. 6 and 7 have, since writing this paper, been purchased by Colonel Platt, and generously presented to Bangor City Museum.—H. H.



SLAB 7.

Friar's Estate, Bangor.

quillons incline very slightly towards the point of the sword. The scabbard is fluted. The lower part of the slab is filled with foliage, most of the leaves having three lobes. The top left-hand angle of the slab, between the circle and the outer edges, is filled with foliage. The fragment at the upper right-hand corner, with part of the circle, is broken off. This fragment bears indication of carving, but too much worn away to decipher. The workmanship of the slab is of thirteenth-century character.

All slabs are worked in coarse-grained conglomerate stone.

STONE COFFIN.

The stone coffin found near the north wall of the church measures 5 ft. 10 ins. long outside, 1 ft. 10 ins. wide at the head, and 1 ft. 7 inches at the foot, and 1 ft. 7 ins. deep outside. The interior is but roughly shaped. The sides are about 4 ins. thick. The drain-hole in the bottom is about 2 ft. 4 ins. from the foot. It was found 12 ins. below the surface of the ground. The stone employed is a conglomerate.

The coffin was found to contain nothing but a quantity of soil and lime, and a few stray human bones.

It was removed to the Penlôn Slate Yard, where it still remains.

WORKED STONES.

Very few wrought stones were found. Fig. 4 is a small portion of a stringcourse. The moulding is characteristic of thirteenth-century work. Fig. 5 is the section of a stone found in the middle of the wall, at B on the plan. It is of a very simple section, and probably would be of thirteenth-century workmanship. Fig. 6 shows a coped stone of uncertain use. Fig. 7 gives the section and elevation of a small portion of a bold roll or shaft moulding. Small portions of iron still remain fixed in this stone. The section is character-



FIG. 4.

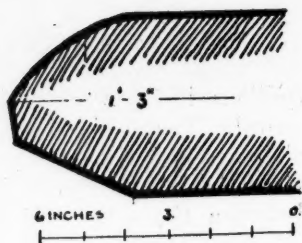


FIG. 5.

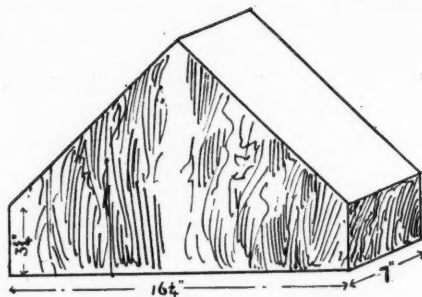
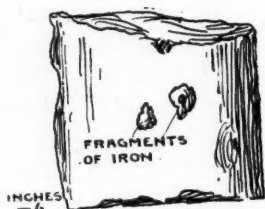
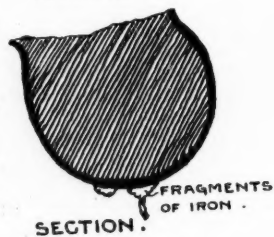


FIG. 6.



FRONT
ELEVATION.



SECTION.

FIG. 7.

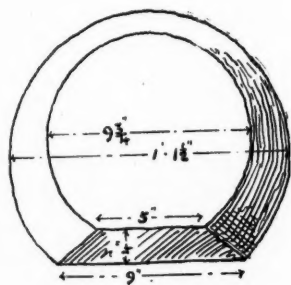
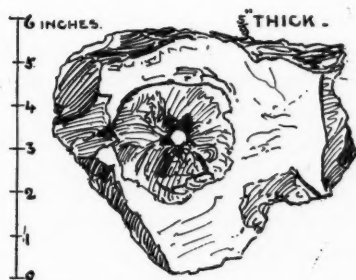
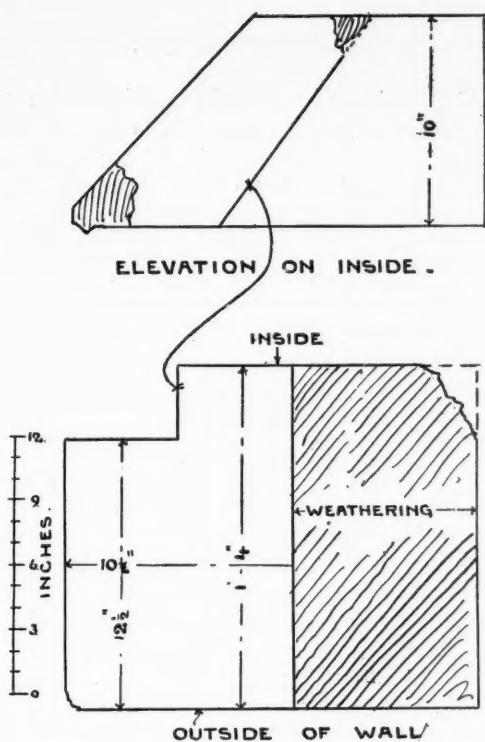


FIG. 8.



FRAGMENT OF ROOFING SLATE .

FIG. 10 .

Friar's Estate, Bangor.

istic of thirteenth-century workmanship. Fig. 8 illustrates a stone of uncertain use. It is that of a section of a cone with a segment cut off. Fig. 9 illustrates the plan of the top bed, and the back elevation of a stone originally forming part of a gable coping. Fig. 10 is a sketch of a portion of a roof slate. Several other fragments of roofing slates were discovered. A small portion of a thirteenth-century abacus of the capital of a small shaft has been found.

HUMAN REMAINS.

Dr. P. J. White, M.B., Professor of Zoology at the University College of North Wales, has taken great interest in the skeletons found, and has examined them as far as circumstances permitted.

Skeleton beneath Slab No. 5.—This skeleton lay 3 ft. below the surface of the ground, but only slightly beneath the slab. The arms lay extended, the hands being clasped over the lower part of the body. Dr. White expressed the opinion that the remains were those of a short, thick-set man, of advanced middle age, and that he must have been very muscular, judging from the ridges in the bones for the attachment of muscles being very strong. The skull he considered a remarkable one: very narrow in front, and widening out behind. The teeth were well worn.

The skeletons discovered south of the church are marked S. 1 to S. 8 on the plan.

S. 1. Four skeletons were cut through, in sinking the trench in this position. Three were 4 ft. 5 ins. below the surface, while over the middle skeleton there had been a second burial 3 ft 3 ins. below the surface. These skeletons were too much smashed up by the workmen's pick and shovel to permit of examination.

S. 2. This skeleton had the right arm bent upwards, the hand resting on the upper part of the chest, the left arm was bent across the body.

S. 3. This skeleton was not properly excavated.

S. 4. Two skeletons lay in this position, both smashed up by the workmen in forming the trench.

S. 5. Three skeletons, a full-grown female and two children. The two children lay on the left side of the adult. The feet of one child touched the head of the other. The left hand of the adult was extended, and touched the head of the lower child. The right arm was bent, the lower portion resting across the body, the head inclined to the left. The children lay with arms extended. These skeletons were come across about 2 ft. below the surface of the ground.

S. 6. This skeleton was not properly excavated.

S. 7. This skeleton was much twisted in its grave. The knees were bent up and pressed down, the head very much bent forwards. The inclination of the body was north north-east by south south-west. The skeleton was suggestive of the body having been hastily pressed into a grave too small to properly contain it.

S. 8. This skeleton had its right arm bent upwards, the hand resting on the upper part of the chest. The left arm was bent across the body. On this skeleton Dr. White came across a bit of corroded iron (see fig. 3), possibly a portion of a clasp.

The evidence given by the various remains found, we consider sufficient to establish the existence of a church with conventual buildings on this site. That, although of no great size, they were of some importance, the discovery of sepulchral slabs, so elaborately worked, bears witness to. The character of the workmanship and design of the objects discovered would indicate that the buildings existed at a date previous to 1300.

There is nothing in the finds to show us absolutely to what Order the buildings belonged.

Friars' School stands about 300 yards distant from the site of the recent discoveries. In the walls of the school-buildings are built several sepulchral slabs, described in a former number of *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

They are said to have been found near the school-house. Human remains are reported to have been discovered to the north of the school-house, between it and the stream. This position has generally been regarded as the site of the friary.

The recent discoveries, however, have established the fact that a religious house existed on the same estate, but considerably removed from the school. Should the existence of a friary between the school-house and the stream be established, we should then have evidence of two religious houses on this estate.

With regard to our present data, it might, however, be argued that the original buildings stood near the beach, but at a later date were removed to a position near the present school-house.

We will briefly refer to the evidence, apart from archæological discoveries, in support of the theory that two houses did actually exist. Leland mentions : "A priory of White Freres by Bangor, dedicate to Jesu." Browne Willis,¹ quoting Leland as his authority, mentions "a House of Black Fryers," and then proceeds : "This was founded, as 'tis said, anno 1299, by Tudor ap Grono, Lord of Penmynydd and Tre Castle, Co. Anglesey, who was there interr'd, anno 1311."

Pennant² says : "The house of friers preachers stood a little way out of the town. It was founded as early as the year 1276 ; Bishop Tanner gives the honour of it to Tudor ap Gronw, Lord of Penmynydd and Tre Castell in Anglesey, who enlarged or rebuilt it in 1299, and was interred here in 1311."

A former number of *Archæologia Cambrensis*³ mentions the will of one Roger Sylle, who bequeaths two legacies, "to the Freres of Bangor, vjs. viijd.," and "to the Freres of Saint Frauncis at Bangor, vjs. viijd."

Further discoveries may throw more light on this vexed question.

¹ Browne Willis, *A Survey of the Cathedral Church of Bangor*, MDCCXXI, p. 47.

² Pennant, 1810, vol. iii, p. 83.

³ *Arch. Camb.*, 1878, p. 153.

THE MISERERES IN ST. DAVID'S CATHEDRAL.

BY ALFRED C. FRYER, PH.D., M.A.

THE stalls at St. David's Cathedral belong to the Perpendicular period, and date from the time that Bishop Robert Tully ruled the See (1460 to 1480).¹ The stalls are twenty-eight in number, and seven of the ancient misereres have been restored and filled in with new carving. The names of the stalls and the subjects carved on the misereres are as follows:—

SOUTH RETURN.

1. *Decanus*.² Two branches of oak, with acorns and leaves.
2. *Arch'd Meneue*. Foliage.
3. *P. Llan Dewi*. An owl on a branch of ivy, with ivy leaves on either side.

SOUTH SIDE.

4. *P. Cursalis*. Modern.
5. *P. Treflod'n*. Modern.
6. Modern.
7. *Vic'r Episcop*. Head of fox in cowl.
8. *P. Cursalis*. Man with cap on head, and leaves protruding from the corners of his mouth.
9. *P. Cursalis*. Modern.
10. *P. Cludeu*. Modern.
11. Modern.
12. *P. Caer-Farchell*. Man in reclining position, resting right hand under his head while his left is placed on his knee.
13. *Arch'd Carnar'n*. Head of a fox in a woman's head-dress, fastened with a large pin.
14. *Cancellarius*. Modern.

¹ See Jones and Freeman's *History of St. Davids*, p. 86.

² This stall was formerly inscribed *Dom. Ep'i.*, and was assigned to the Bishop as Dean of the church. The name was altered in 1840, when the Precentor assumed the title of Dean. The Dean occupies the Precentor's stall.

NORTH RETURN.

15. *Præcentor*. Angel with shield.

16. *Archd' Brecon*. Boat rowed by a monk seated near the prow; another monk steers with his left hand. He and another man assist a sea-sick passenger to the side of the boat.

17. *P. Sti' Nicholi*. A man is seated at a table supported on trestles. He is dressed in loose-fitting gown, with belt, shoes, and cap. A woman in a long robe, head-dress, but with bare feet, holds her dress with her right hand; her left hand places a large dish containing an ox-head upon the table. The only other object upon the table is a large empty platter.

NORTH SIDE.

18. *P. Langan*. Two heads under one cap, fastened by a strap.

19. *P. Cursalis*. A woman's face. Her cap is fastened by two pins. Her mouth indicates a strong will.

20 Two dogs snarling over two bones.

21. *Succentor*. Two doleful-looking men. Each is bent as if in pain, and each holds one hand on the lower part of his back while the other is placed on his knee. Their dress shows that they are laymen.

22. *P. Cursalis*. Boat being built. Two workmen are engaged on the labour. One is seated, and is using a hammer on the lower part of the boat. His fellow is enjoying a meal: a round-shaped jar is near his feet, and he is drinking from a shallow bowl. Both men are dressed in smockfrocks with girdles, caps, and shoes.

23. *P. Cursalis*. A man's face, having ears like a donkey, a pug nose, and a diminutive chin.

24. *P. Caer-Fai*. Vine-leaves and grapes.

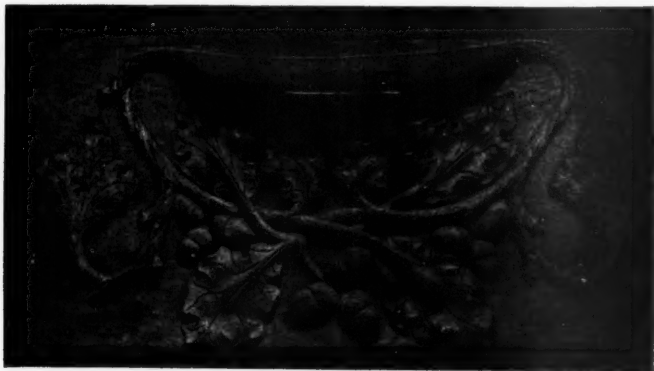
25. Two snakes coiled and twisted together.

26. *Arch'd Cardig'n*. An unfortunate dog being devoured by five boars. Four are already attacking their enemy. One bites his neck, three are eating his legs, while the fifth is edging his way in and is biting the neck of one of his friends, and thus encouraging him to give place.

27. *P. Aurea*. Fox and goose. The goose has a human head, and is wearing a peculiar form of cap. The fox is dressed as a woman in gown, apron, and kerchief over the head. He is seated on a low form. His right hand holds a small cake, and his left an empty platter. The artist depicts the fox as having hands and not paws. Behind the fox is a large round jar without a handle.

28. *Thesaurarius*. A winged dragon.

The designers of these misereres were men of some education, and many of their carvings illustrate the manners and customs of the time in a most interesting



Miserere, No. 1.



Miserere, No. 3.

degree. They did not seek for inspiration from the mediæval Bestiaries, or Books of Beasts, unless No. 28 may be traced to this source, neither did they depict

any scene from Holy Writ. Unlike the misereres in Bristol Cathedral,¹ and other churches, the story of *Reineke Fuchs* is not referred to, although in the fifteenth



Miserere, No. 7.



Miserere, No. 11.

century it was universally popular. Symbolic repre-

¹ In Bristol Cathedral, as many as nine carvings are taken from the satire of Reynard the Fox.

sentations of sacred subjects are also absent, unless the beautiful carving of grapes and vine-leaves (No. 24) is intended to be symbolical of the Holy Eucharist.



Miserere, No. 16.



Miserere, No. 17.

Humour is introduced in its usual form. The crafty fox is seen not only under a cowl, but is also adorned with a woman's head-dress. No. 16 may have been suggested by the remembrance of some stormy passage

to Ramsey Island, here depicted at the expense of the sick passenger. Some few are grotesque heads, but the face of a woman, No. 19, is not unlikely to have been



Miserere, No. 19.



Miserere, No. 21.

taken from life. The mouth certainly indicates a strong will. Some are foliage, and one or two depict scenes from the daily life of the fifteenth century.

The course of the sun through the zodiac, Mr. James Fowler tells us,¹ had an important significance; it



Miserere, No. 22.



Miserere, No. 24.

represented the course of the Sun of Righteousness through the festivals of the church, which marked the

¹ *Archæologia*, vol. xlv, 1873.

divisions of the ecclesiastical, as the signs of the zodiac did the divisions of the natural year. Mr. Fowler gives a list of subjects, peculiar to the different months



Miserere, No. 25.



Miserere, No. 26.

of the year, at Worcester, Malvern, and Gloucester. The designers of the carvings at St. David's do not appear to have been influenced by these symbolic ideas,

unless Nos. 16 and 22 are for "April," representing the season of navigation. The beautiful carving of acorns and oak leaves, No. 1, might be for "July," and the dog and wild boar for "September." This is, however, more likely to be an instance of retributive justice, like the rats that are depicted at Malvern hanging their old enemy the cat.

The side ornamentation, which are frequently called "supporters," represent foliage, and corresponds to the foliage decoration of the period when these misereres were carved.



Miserere, No. 27.

The learned authors of the *History and Antiquities of St. Davids*,¹ make the following remarks:—

"The stalls themselves are of solid oak, with plain arms. The arms of the returned stalls, as well as those of the Chancellor and Treasurer, are ornamented on the elbows with grotesque carvings, representing, with one or two exceptions, heads whose *coiffure* varies by imperceptible degrees from the cowl of a monk to the cap of a jester. The same aversion to the regulars is exhibited as usual in many of the misereres: the reverend brethren are represented as suffering at one time from

¹ See p. 86.

nausea, and at another from crapula; while the cowled fox, which appears rather frequently, seems to be the carver's version of the proverb, 'Cucullus non facit Monachum.' One of them deserves especial notice, as possibly bearing on the state of popular religion in the fifteenth century. It represents a fox, cowled and seated on a bench, offering a small round object, representing either a wafer or a paten, to a figure having the body of a goose with a human head, and wearing a cap of rather peculiar form. A flagon stands on a bench behind the fox."

If the carving on No. 27 is carefully examined, it will be seen that the fox is dressed as a woman and not as an ecclesiastic; and the objects in his hands are more likely to be an empty platter and a piece of bread or cake than a paten and a wafer. The early Church was strong enough to permit caricature of her ministers, but there are few instances where doctrines are permitted to be ridiculed. We venture to believe that Bishop Jones and Professor Freeman were mistaken in their explanation of this carving, and this is not an instance of ridicule being thrown on the refusal of the cup to the laity. We venture also to place a different construction on the carving on No. 21. The doleful men are not dressed as "reverend brethren," and their attitude appears as if they might be suffering from sciatica or ague, and not from crapula.

There is little doubt that the carving on the misereres were intended to be an adornment to the choir, as well as to be some assistance to tired limbs. "It is easy to imagine," says Miss Emma Phipson, in her delightful book on choir stalls,¹ "that when they were all uplifted, the effect would be a bold band or frieze of carving, which would add great richness to the appearance of the stalls." Our forefathers ought not to be considered lazy because they obtained some assistance to their weary bodies. "The ancient offices of the Church to be paid daily were seven: *Laudo, Prime, Terce, Sext, Nones, Vespers, and Compline*; besides, of course, the daily celebration (often more than once) of the Holy

¹ See *Choir Stalls and their Carving*, by Emma Phipson, p. 3.

Eucharist. . . . At each of these offices four psalms, besides canticles and hymns, were recited; $4 + 7 = 28 + 7$ canticles $+ 7$ hymns $= 42$ standing to sing daily, besides endless versicles and responses."¹ It is no wonder that the aged ecclesiastics in our great monasteries were at first allowed a crutch to rest on during the long psalms. In the thirteenth century, however, these little undershelves were introduced, so that a slight support enabled the occupants of the stalls to remain in a half-standing and half-sitting attitude.²

It has been pointed out³ that all the characteristics which Ruskin ascribes to Gothic architecture⁴ are to be found in the carvings on the misereres of our great churches. *Savageness* is expressed in a certain roughness of work and wildness of imagination. *Changefulness*, too, is a characteristic of the misereres at St. David's. No subject is depicted more than once, and yet the general design is carefully adhered to. Monotony was not at this period considered to be a special attribute of beauty. *Naturalness*, that is "the love of natural objects for their own sake, and an effort to represent them frankly, unrestrained by artistical laws." Look how carefully the owl and the ivy branch (No. 3), the grapes and the vine-leaves (No. 24), and the coiled snakes (No. 25), have been executed.

"Both Greek and Roman used conventional foliage in their ornament, passing into something that was not foliage at all, knotting itself into strange cup-like buds or clusters, and growing out of lifeless rods instead of stems; the Gothic sculptor received these types at first as things that ought to be, just as we have a second time received them; but he could not rest in

¹ *Misereres in Manchester Cathedral*, by the Rev. E. F. Letts.

² The misereres at Exeter, Winchester, Salisbury, Chichester, and Sutton Courteney, belong to the thirteenth century. Those in Exeter Cathedral date from 1244.

³ See *Choir Stalls and their Carving*, by Emma Phipson, p. 16.

⁴ *Stones of Venice*, vol. ii.

them. He saw there was no veracity in them, no knowledge, no vitality. Do what he would, he could not help liking the true leaves better; and cautiously, a little at a time, he put more of nature into his work, until at last it was all true, retaining, nevertheless, every valuable character of the original well-disciplined and designed arrangement." *Grotesqueness* is certainly a feature in the misereres at St. David's. For example, the two heads under one hat (No. 18), and the remarkable face on No. 23, show this characteristic; while the fox in a cowl (No. 7) and in the dress of a woman (No. 27) show the quaint humour which prevailed in the Middle Ages. *Rigidity* is seen in a certain stiffness in some of the groups; and *redundancy* is certainly a characteristic of these misereres, for they are a profuse adornment of a portion of the stalls which is usually unseen.

The illustrations which accompany this paper are from a series of photographs, which my friend, Mr. Percy Hume, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, was permitted to take by the kind permission of the Dean of St. David's.

Archaeological Notes and Queries.

RECENT DISCOVERIES AND EXPLORATIONS IN WALES AND THE MARCHES.—South Wales and Monmouthshire are singularly fortunate in the Romano-British remains which have recently been discovered, or are now in process of investigation; and the results promise to be highly important.

Cardiff Castle.—Two-thirds of the quadrilateral outline of the Roman *castrum* is marked by an enormous post-Roman earthwork, and the remaining third by a strong and lofty wall, which has been proved to rest upon the foundation of the Roman line. About 1890, and especially during the last two years, the Marquess of Bute has had much of the outer portion of the above earthwork stripped away, in order to allow of the erection of a retaining wall. The removal of the soil brought to light the ruined Roman rampart in the heart of the post-Roman mound,—a massive and well-constructed work, 10 ft. 6 ins. in thickness in its lower portion. Lord Bute's new retaining wall is carried up from this ancient work, and it thus perpetuates the Roman plan. The Roman rampart was strengthened at regular intervals by polygonal bastions, solid, except in the case of the central one on the east side, which contained a small chamber. On the north side, the central gateway, with its flanking towers containing guard-chambers, has been opened out. Mr. John Ward, F.S.A., has watched the work as it has proceeded, and has had many photographs taken, and drawings and models made, of the chief features as they were brought to light, and before they were interfered with by the new work. Mr. Ward informs us that the Cardiff wall has points of unusual interest; and he has promised to write an account of these discoveries for the *Journal*, in continuation of that by the late Mr. G. T. Clark in 1890, upon the same subject.

Caerwent.—The following circular has been issued by the Committee of the Caerwent Exploration Fund:—The excavations which have been and are still being carried out by the Society of Antiquaries at Silchester, the site of the *Calleva Atrebatum* of the Romans, have drawn public attention to the importance of systematically exploring and describing these very interesting records of the former history of our own land. At Silchester the aim has been not so much to discover beautiful pavements, or works of art, as to recover the plan and arrangement of a Romano-British city, and to throw light on the daily life and culture of its inhabitants. As is well known, the efforts of the Society of Antiquaries at Silchester have met with marked success. A very large portion of the ancient city has been

examined, and the streets and houses have been accurately planned. Many very interesting remains of the domestic life of the inhabitants have been found, and the discovery of a Christian church close to the Forum may almost be said to mark an epoch in this branch of historical research. That the work so ably begun at Silchester should be carried on with equal energy and care in other parts of the country is, it need not be said, a matter of first-rate importance, and steps have already been taken to excavate and explore the Roman City at Wroxeter, in Shropshire. Here in the West of England, where Roman remains are so numerous, there are many opportunities for continuing this work; and it is now proposed to explore in a similar way some portion of the Roman remains at Caerwent, in Monmouthshire, the site of the ancient Venta Silurum. The City of Venta Silurum is situate on the Roman road between Isca Silurum (Caerleon) and Chepstow, and was one of the stations on the XIV iter in the Antonine Itinerary. Like Caerleon, it doubtless dates its origin from the time of the subjugation of the Silures by Ostorius and Frontinus in the years 50-57 A.D. The city itself is a rectangular (about 500 × by 400 yards in extent), and a large portion of the ancient city wall is still standing..

Relics of the Roman city are constantly being found, including several fine pavements; but the only systematic exploration that has been carried out was done by Mr. Octavius Morgan, in 1855, when a house and some baths were excavated in the south-east quarter. A fine set of baths was discovered here, and a pavement which, with other things, was removed to Caerleon (see *Archæologia*, vol. xxxvi). With this exception the Roman antiquities found in this interesting site have perished, and no record has been preserved until the year 1893, when Mr. Milverton Drake, in conducting some building operations, found another house, and planned as much of it as time would permit. An account of this will be found in the proceedings of the Clifton Antiquarian Club, vol. III, pp. 41-55. The houses and cottages of the more modern village of Caerwent will prevent a large part of the site being explored, but there are still some fields unoccupied by houses, and it is proposed to systematically excavate these, and carefully plan the streets and houses, as has been done at Silchester. If possible, the cemeteries will also be explored. With this object a committee has been formed, and it has been determined to appeal to those interested in archæology for help to provide the necessary funds. The executors of the late Mr. Lysaght have kindly given their permission to begin this summer with a field of about nine acres in the south-west quarter of the city; and Mr. and Mrs. Till, the tenants, have not only most kindly given their consent, but are also helping the undertaking in every way. In April last the Local Secretary for Gloucestershire brought the matter before the Society of Antiquaries, and the Council of that Society has made a contribution to the fund. Donations may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, A. E. Hudd, Esq., 94, Pembroke Road, Clifton.

The following account of the excavations at Caerwent, by Mr. A. T. Martin, is taken from the *Athenæum* of Nov. 18th, 1899.—The work of exploring the site of the Romano-British city of Venta Silurum, our modern Caerwent, has now ceased for the year; and although it is too early for a definite account of the results, an outline of what has been done will no doubt be of interest to antiquaries, and probably in some degree to the general public.

The excavations, which have been conducted under the direction of a committee consisting of Messrs. Hudd, Martin, Pritchard and Ward, began on August 17th, on a plot of three acres of meadow land in the south-west corner of the city. On the west side of this plot the city wall is continuous, and, except possibly in one spot, both inner and outer faces are still clearly visible, though of course the wall has lost something of its original height. On the south of this plot the wall is much more decayed, and in several places has been destroyed, with the exception of the inner face. This has, however, been traced by trenches, and has no doubt been preserved by the earth which has accumulated against it. The rounded angle between the west and south walls, when cleared of briars and bushes, was found to be comparatively well preserved; and in one place the wall cannot, on the inner side, be far short of its original height. The excavations here were extremely interesting. In one place holes were sunk down to the foundations on both sides, so as to obtain a complete section of the lower part of the wall. The lower courses were found to rest on a layer of uncemented, irregular blocks of stone or boulders, at a depth of about 11 ft. 6 ins. below the present interior ground level. The width of the wall at this place was about 11 ft. at the base, diminishing by offsets to about 9 ft. 6 ins. at the ground level.

This excavation also revealed on the inner side of the wall a notable change in the nature of the masonry. The older work of good regular courses was succeeded towards the east by very inferior and irregular masonry. The fracture or line of junction between the two may possibly, but by no means certainly, indicate repairs. To the east of this excavation, and at the middle of the rounded angle, a platform, presumably for *ballistæ*, or other engines of war, was uncovered. This platform, which may have served also to strengthen the curved portion of the wall, was certainly carried up some feet above the interior ground level. The ground inside the walls was examined by trenches dug at an angle of about 45° with the city walls. For a distance of about one hundred feet from the west wall no foundations, with one small exception, were discovered; but the trenches revealed, at a depth of about three feet, a layer of black earth, which was fairly well distributed over the extreme south-west corner of the city. The layer contained much pottery of the commoner kind, coins, and bones of animals; and it has further interest, as affording an indication of the contour of the ground in Roman times.

Further to the east foundations were speedily found, and when

followed up revealed the existence of at least three separate buildings. No. 1 (beginning on the west) consists of two rooms, the larger of which contains one furnace of a not very usual type, and another construction in the centre of the area, which may have been a furnace, but if so it is somewhat peculiar in design. This building, which is built across walls of an earlier construction, would seem to have been a factory rather than a dwelling-house. Immediately north-east of, but not certainly belonging to, this building, is a rectangular paved space about 13 ft. by 6 ft., enclosed by four walls, of which the southern one is pierced by a well-turned arch. This space was almost entirely filled with fine earth, and contained slag, fragments of metal resembling the collars of a pipe, and quantities of pottery, including an unbroken specimen of a jar of black ware. Although there were many traces of the action of fire, it is by no means certain that this construction served as a furnace, and the arch in the south wall is an obvious objection to its having been a tank. It is possible that it may have had some connection with the trade or manufacture carried on in the adjoining building, but at present its use must remain undecided.

From this point a wall led eastwards for some 67 ft. to a large house of a most interesting type. This house consists of a central area or court, surrounded by rooms on all four sides. A corridor also runs along the outer side of the eastern rooms. The rooms on the north-west and south side are mostly small; on the east there are two large rooms, one of which contains a projecting course of masonry abutting against its north wall, which may have been the foundation of a dresser or of a bench. On the south side there is a hypocaust with brick *pila*, but the pavement has disappeared. The floors of most of the rooms were either of mortar, *opus signinum* work, or rammed pebbles. The central area has not yet been fully explored, but it is of peculiar interest, as it shows an ambulatory paved with coarse red *tesserae*, separated, at any rate on the western side, from the internal area by courses of solid masonry, which supported columns. Of these two have been found so far, and one capital with good early mouldings of the Roman Doric order. A finely-constructed stone drain led from this western side of the court under the rooms on the south side of the house.

Projecting from the southern side of the house is a platform 14 ft. by 12 ft. of solid masonry, with channels cut in its surface leading into a drain on its western side. The drain, which has a steep fall to the south, is paved with large tiles. This platform appears, with very little doubt, to have been a latrine, but its size is unusual.

North of house No. 1, the foundations of another fine house with a hypocaust, and a room with an apsidal end, have been found; but as this house runs into ground which will not be taken up for excavation till next year, no further details can be given at present.

While these excavations were going on, Mr. Morgan, the village wheelwright and smith, who has been greatly interested in the

explorations, set to work with his sons to excavate the interior of the north gate, which happens to be in a field belonging to him. Acting under advice, they sank a hole, which revealed the two piers of the gate, the tops of which were only a few inches below the surface. The gateway itself had been blocked up at some later date by regular courses of masonry resting on massive blocks of stone, one of which was a very fine capital. On the outside of the wall the turn of the arch resting on the western pier can still be seen; so that when these excavations are resumed next year, it is nearly certain that the structure of almost the entire gateway can be accurately determined.

All the excavations have been fruitful in finds of the usual character, but though many of them are interesting, no object of exceptional value has been found. The numerous coins are mostly Late, and but few are well preserved. Samian ware is not very plentiful, and is mostly in small pieces. Among the metal objects are a dagger, a curious little pocket-knife, and some good *styli* and pins. Only two *fibulæ* have been found hitherto; but, considering that the area excavated was for a long time arable land, and that the walls are often only a few inches under the surface, it is not strange that objects of this class are rare. No rubbish pits have been found so far, but no doubt, as in Silchester, these, when they are found, will be abundantly fruitful. All the finds have been already labelled and arranged in a temporary museum in the village, where they can be inspected by permission of the committee.

Work will be resumed next spring, when the central area of the large house, and the house on the north, will be thoroughly explored. So far, the committee have every reason to be satisfied with the results; and if only sufficient funds can be raised, there is ground of a most promising nature to be excavated, and enough work for at least three or four years.

The excavating committee have received valuable assistance from Mr. T. Ashby, of Christchurch, Oxford, and from the Rev. W. A. Downing, vicar of Caerwent.

Gelligaer.—During October the Cardiff Naturalists' Society carried out some exploratory diggings upon the site of a small Roman station at Gelligaer, about 16 miles north of Cardiff. This camp is situated on or near a Roman way which connected Cardiff with a large camp near Brecon, which has been identified as Bannium. The Gelligaer camp seems to have attracted little or no notice from antiquaries, although its form and all its chief parts—ditch, rampart, gates, *via principia*, and internal buildings—could be traced from surface-indications alone. In the process of excavation, the gateway with its guard-chambers on the north-west side was cleared and photographed. Other trenches were carried through ditch and rampart, and the lower courses of a range of strongly-built rooms were opened out within the camp. It is the intention of this society

to resume the work next spring, and it should give excellent results, for very little of the area has been built upon or otherwise distributed.

Find of Roman Coins, etc., on Sully Moor.—Mr. John Storrie writes as follows in the *Western Mail* of October 26th, 1899: "For many years I have been trespassing on Sully Moors, sometimes botanising, sometimes geologising, and on other like matters bent, but I little dreamt that less than six inches of clod separated me from one of the richest finds of Roman coins, &c., ever chronicled from South Wales; and I was surprised to learn that last week it was made at a spot where I had often been to gather, in the sharp winds of March, the early spring mushroom. By the way, this spot, a field near Lavernock, and Ely Racecourse, are the only localities in the district where this fungus grows, which suggests that these places might be prospected for finds. In a spot exactly marked by a richer patch of grass, the skeleton of a human being was found less than six inches under the surface; and within about three yards south a brass vase of small size, filled with coins and some few items of jewellery, being together relics of an early time, when people banked their money in the ground to keep it safe; and safe this little hoard had been kept for 1,600 years, till an accident brought it to the light of day. It is curious to think that I, a nineteenth-century man, should have eaten mushrooms nourished by the bones of that third-century individual, and to speculate whether any of the qualities of the saintly or sinful side of his nature have been transmitted to me through the medium of this grass. This grass, in its turn, nourished the agaric which was consumed by me; and if any of the properties of that individual is now incorporated in my frame, or have exerted any influence over me, it may explain things I have no explanation for otherwise, and may account for many objectless wanderings in out-of-the-way places to which I am subject.

To return, however, to the find of Roman coins. Last week some navvies, in the course of their work, came across the skeleton and the metal vase. A rush was made, the vase went to pieces, and each secured what he could lay hold of. One or two coins had been parted with in public-houses, and on Friday a faint rumour got my length that old coins had been found somewhere. I spent the day in endeavouring to trace the origin of the rumour, and had given it up, as I have had to do many others which are perpetually reaching me, and nine-tenths of which, on investigation, turn out hoaxes or mistakes, or even worse. I had, therefore, dismissed the matter from my mind and given it up, when a visitor entered my office next evening. And instantly before he had spoken, although I had never seen him or he me, I knew he knew what he knew, as the saying is, so it is needless to describe the making of a bargain between two men who want to get some advantage over the

other. When dealing with plain men plain dealing is best, and at last weight for weight and "summut over" was arranged: which means that I paid weight in sovereigns for the articles, with three sovereigns over, and silver of Victoria for both the real and the base silver or billon coins. The shares of three of the men then passed into my possession; the fourth has taken his to Liverpool, and I am endeavouring to trace it and the missing man. My reasons for doing this is that, unless immediate action is taken when one of these finds occur, the things get scattered, and no record is kept, so that any lesson they may teach is lost to the public. Every find that is made is one less to be made, and the sources of information are becoming dried up, so it behoves one to be up and doing at every chance if these things are to be secured in their entirety for a public collection. I have notified the authorities of my possession of treasure trove in this case, and will now keep it until it is safely placed in some public collection where all such finds should go. I am engaged in cataloguing all the objects, which consists of three finger rings, four golden aureases, and 278 silver coins and a few fragments. So far as I have gone at present, a golden aureas of Diocletian of about 300 A.D. is the largest coin, and from the mint state of its preservation the vase must have been buried about this date. It will be remembered that a very interesting find of Roman brass coins was made some years ago near an old Roman pottery on Coed-y-Cloron Farm, near Llanedarn. These got into private hands, and the public were never the better for the information which might have been got, had they been fully examined by a competent man and publicly recorded."

List of Items Found.

Gold Ring, weighs 192 grains.—Entablature massively octagonal on exterior, oval interiorly, with oval stone, the sparkles of which proclaim it to be the sapphirus of Pliny, but now known as lapis lazuli. Theophrastus also describes sapphirus as spotted with gold dust, but which moderns now know to be due to iron pyrites. Despite the weathering of 1,600 years, these spottings can still be seen in this ring. Pliny's description of it may be quoted here:—"In the blue sapphire shine golden specks; it is like a serene sky adorned with stars, on account of the golden points." This stone seems to have been marked off for engraving, though never actually engraved. In the gold of this ring strength more than elegance is the principal feature, but the design is not without merit.

Gold Ring, weighs 173 grains.—Entablature square, with very deep gutter round. Cock in fighting attitude deeply engraved on this square. It is noticeable that the tail is not trimmed so fully as moderns do; and, although the bird's wattles have been removed, he still wears his comb, thus showing the difference in ancient and modern usage in that now proscribed sport. This is a robustly handsome rather than a refined or elegant piece of jewellery, and

no doubt, the Roman sporting gentleman who had it made for him thought something of himself.

Gold Cameo Ring, weighs 107 grains.—Much smaller ring than the other two, and lighter in design. On a very highly raised entablature, and, surrounded by a sort of glory in golden scallops, is set a cameo head of Medusa, roughly cut in high relief on a pale blue stone of the variety known as sapphirine chalcedony, and named by Pliny "aerizusa," and which, he says, was brought from Persia. Westropp, in his manual of precious stones, says that Roman intagli in sapphirina are frequently met with.

Coins.

Gold Aureus. Obverse: Laureated head with bust to right, in paludantian dress—IMP CC VAL DIOCLETIANVS PP AVG. Reverse: Nude figure holding sistrum in right hand, left hand resting on pole of standard—IOVI CONSERVAT AVGG (in exergue P.R.). Weighs 81 grains, Mint state.

Gold Aureus. Obverse: Laureated head to right, cut in very high relief—MAXIMIANVS AVG. Reverse: Hercules kneeling on the haunch of a stag, with its antlers in either hand—VIRTVS AVGG (in exergue T.R.). Weighs 85 grains, Mint state.

Gold Aureus. Obverse: Crowned head and bust to right, paludantian dress—IMP C MAVR VAL MAXIMIANVS PP AVG. Reverse: Undraped figure, with sceptre in right hand, and with the left leaning on pole of standard—IOVI CONSERVTR AVGG. Weighs 86½ grains, Mint state.

Gold Aureus. Obverse: Laureated head, with bust to right, right hand grasping a spear, left hand with two javelins, armour richly ornamental—VIRTVS MAXIMIANI AVG. Reverse: Hercules throwing away his club and strangling lion—VIRTVS AVCG (in exergue P. R. Weighs 20 grains, Mint state.

Silver Denarius, of Julia, wife of Elagabalus, 218-222. Obverse: Female head to right, with hair in heavy side braids and back hair interlaced—IVLIA AVGVSTA. Reverse: Draped figure with spear in left hand, dish in right, feeding Peacock—IVNO. This figure, no doubt, is intended as representing the partner of Jupiter, but the general air of it is masculine. Weighs 49 grains.

Silver Denarius of Elagabalus. Obverse: Youthful laureated head and bust of Emperor to right—ANTONINVS PIVS AVC. Reverse: Draped figure, cornucopia in left hand, caduceus in right—FELICITAS AVGC. Weighs 47 grains.

Silver Denarius of Elagabalus. Obverse: Youthful laureated head and bust to right—ANTONINVS PIVS AVC. Reverse: Trophy bearing two oval shields, also two captives sitting one on each side of the base—PART MAX PONT TRPIII; showing that it was issued in the fourth year of his Tribunitian power. Weighs 50 grains.

Silver Denarius of Caracalla, 211-217. Obverse: Bearded head to right, laureated—M AVREL ANTONINVS AVG. Reverse: Figure of Plenty seated in curule chair, cornucopia in left hand, right hand

pointing to plough handles—TRPXXXIII IMPX COS III P.P. Weighs 50 grains. Shows that this coin was made in the tenth year of Emperor, his third consulship, and in the thirty-fourth of his possession of the Tribunitian power. Of course, the actual year of this issue is easily obtained by reference to Roman history.

Silver Denarius of Elagabalus, 218-222. Obverse: Laureated head to right—ANTONINVS PIVS AVG BRIT. Reverse: Soldier, with spear in right hand, advancing; standard over his left shoulder—MARTVRO PVGNATORI.

Silver Denarius. Obverse: Bearded laureated head to right—IMP SEV ALEXAND AVG. Reverse: Jupiter extending his sceptre—IOVI CONSERVATORI (Jove the Preserver).

Silver Denarius of Gordianus Pius, 238-244. Obverse: Crowned head to right—IMP GORDIANVS PIVS PEL AVG. Reverse: Hercules leaning on his club—VIRTVTI AVGVSTI.

Denarius of Carausius, 287-293. Obverse: Bearded laureated head to right, boldly but rudely executed, paluduntian dress—IMP CARAVSIVS PF AVG. Reverse: Coronated figure holding standard, clasping hands with taller coronated figure holding spear—EXPECTAT ENEMI in exergue RSA.

Denarius of Hereunia Etruscilla, wife of Trajan Decius. Obverse: Head to right, hair with toupee and long braids returning from neck to crown—HER ETRVSCILLA AVG. Reverse: Lady seated on chair, right hand with fan, left holding rod—VDICITIA AVG.

Third brass of Valerianus. Obverse: Head to right, crowned—D LIC VALERIANVS CAES. Reverse: Libation or lachrymal vessel—PIETAS AVGG. This is only remarkable as being the only bronze coin in the find.

The silver coins I have been able to clean and identify up to the present comprise:—20 denarii of Caracalla, 211-217 A.D. 1 denarii of Geta, 211-212. 1 denarii of Macrinus, 217. 3 denarii of Elagabalus, 218-222. 1 denarii of Julia Paula (wife of Elagabalus). 1 denarii of Julia Soaemias (mother of Elagabalus). 1 denarii of Julia Maesae. 11 denarii of Severus Alexander, 222-235. 3 denarii of Julia Mamaea. 27 denarii of Gordianus Pius, 238-244. 2 denarii of Gordian I, 238. 13 denarii of Philippus, 244-249. 1 denarii of Otacilia (wife of Philip). 6 denarii of Trajan Decius, 249-251. 1 denarii of Herennia Etruscilla (wife of Trajan Decius). 1 denarii of Herennus Etruscus, 251. 5 denarii of Trebonius Gallus, 251-254. 2 denarii of Volusianus. 9 denarii of Valerianus, 253-260. 1 denarii of Aurelianus, 270-275. 7 denarii of Postumus, 258-267. 1 denarii of Carausius, 293-296.

The remainder I have not had time to clean and identify, but I propose to do so in about two days longer, and will at once publish them. I believe they are identifiable, except about half-a-dozen.

The total in my hands, besides gold rings and coins above mentioned, comprises 275 silver and base silver, and three bronze coins.

I regret to say that no identifiable part of the bronze vase in which they were found is to the good, except minute fragments corroded on to some of the coins, and the drawing is taken from the mould of it in the soil; it is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ ins. high.

The following further information about the Sully find appeared in the *Western Mail* for Nov. 15th, 1899.—The adjourned inquiry into the finding of treasure trove on Sully Moors, to which the Hon. Ivor Churchill Guest laid claim, was held at the Cardiff Town Hall on Tuesday afternoon. The labourer, Long, who, whilst digging excavations, found three old Roman gold rings, four old Roman coins, 271 old Roman silver coins, and four huge bronze coins, repeated his evidence as to the find, and to disposing of them to Mr. John Storrie, of Cardiff. Reference was made to another gold ring found by another workman, and the witness emphatically declared that he did not know who this man was.

Mr. John Storrie gave evidence as to the purchase of the coins, and said that he understood Long to inform him that there was another gold ring found, because Long asked him if it would be safe to give a sovereign for it.

Long admitted that another gold ring or coin was found by a fellow-labourer, but he again swore that he did not know in whose possession it was.

In reply to the foreman of the jury, the witness said the he asked Mr. Storrie if he would give a sovereign for another coin or ring if more were found on the ground.

Mr. John Price, manager of the Armstrong Pioneer Syndicate, said he claimed possession of the rings and coins on behalf of the above company, because the company considered that they belonged to them. He did not know of any rings or coins found which had not been delivered to the court.

The Coroner, in addressing the jury, said that since the previous inquiry a fortnight ago he had communicated with the Solicitor of the Treasury in the matter, and pointed out to him their difficulty to decide the title of the treasure trove; and further informed him that the lord of the manor had claimed the right to the treasure. The Solicitor of the Treasury had replied, stating he quite agreed with him (the Coroner) that it was a difficult matter to decide, and forwarded him the shorthand notes of a case tried before Mr. Justice Stirling in 1892. Mr. Justice Stirling decided that the coroner's jury ought not to decide the title in cases of treasure trove, and that decision governed the case now before them. It would therefore be for the jury to say whether it was treasure trove, and if all articles found had been delivered to the court. There was evidence to show that there was a ring missing.

Mr. Lawrence Williams, solicitor, on behalf of the lord of the manor, addressed the jury. At the previous inquiry, he said, they were called upon to prove their title as lord of the manor, which they did by putting the steward into the box. They therefore claim that Mr. Guest was entitled to the treasure trove. Since the

last inquiry he (Mr. Williams) had obtained the title-deeds from London, but he had not brought them to the court, as the Coroner had informed him that he would direct the jury not to find who was the owner of the coins and rings. He, however, hoped the jury would, in their verdict, say that the coins belonged to the lord of the manor; and that if they would say nothing about the title of those coins, that they would order them to be deposited in safe custody in the joint names of the parties concerned.

The Coroner: They have no right to do that. That rests with me. They are to remain with me until the Treasury decides what to do with them.

Mr. Williams: Then it's a case of "Heads we win or tails you lose," and the Treasury dictate your verdict.

The Coroner: Not at all. Addressing the jury, the Coroner again informed them that it was not a question of title that they had to decide, but whether this was treasure trove, and whether any portion of it had been kept back.

The Foreman (Mr. Drane, chemist) advised the jury to return a verdict in accordance with the Coroner's request. He had no doubt but that the Treasury would order the antiquities to be deposited in a museum, and that the finder be compensated for them.

The jury then returned a verdict to the effect that, on the 17th of October, certain Roman gold rings, gold coins, silver coins, and copper coins were found by a labourer named Long, in the employ of the Armstrong Pioneer Syndicate (Limited) at Sully Moors; and that the said coins and rings were of ancient time, and hidden and concealed in earth; that the owner cannot be found; and that some person unknown had taken possession of a gold ring, and concealed the said ring.

On behalf of the jury, Mr. Drane said that he thought a vote of thanks should be accorded Mr. John Storrie, for his honesty in delivering up the coins and rings to the Coroner for inquiry.

The Coroner: That is my opinion, too; and I may say that the Solicitor of the Treasury has written to me to say that Mr. Storrie has acted with zeal and discretion.

To the Editor of the *Western Mail*.

Sir,—I find that Mr. Storrie, in his evidence at the inquest this afternoon, stated that I should say there was another gold coin missing, and that I inquired whether I should be justified in offering a sovereign for it. What I did was to ask Mr. Storrie, if there was another gold coin missing, would I be justified in offering a sovereign for it. My object was to get any coin that might be found, and hand it over to Mr. Storrie to complete the treasure trove; as I was not the only person there, and I knew that a sovereign would be an inducement to secure any coin found.—I am, &c..

Cadoxton, November 14th.

J. LONG.

ST. WINIFRED'S WELL (*Mostyn and others v. Atherton*).—The plaintiffs in this action are Sir Piers William Mostyn and Messrs. Grosvenor, Chater and Company, Limited, paper manufacturers, the former the landed proprietor and riparian owner, at Holywell, Flint, and the latter millowners in the same locality. The Defendant, Mr. Jacob Atherton, also of the same place, has obtained a licence from the Urban District Council of Holywell, for the abstraction of water from the Holywell, St. Winifred's Well, by means of a four-inch pipe, between midnight on Saturdays and midnight on Sundays, from May 1st, 1898, and on no other days except by special licence of the Council, between 6 p.m. and 6 p.m., at a rent of £500 a year, for the purpose of storing such water in casks, jars, and bottles, and for sale. The Plaintiffs sought to restrain such abstraction on the ground that the water has for some years been becoming less, and it is now not sufficient for the mills bordering on the stream, and that the Urban District Council were not riparian owners, and could not grant the licence they had issued. St. Winifred's Well, according to the statement of Counsel, derives its name from a legend many centuries old, to the effect that a lady named Winifred, for resisting the blandishments of a Prince, had her head cut off, and that it rolled into this particular well; hence the names of Holywell and Holyhead. The flow of water from the well is very large, and a great portion finds its way into the river Dee. The water is supposed to possess great healing qualities, and large numbers of pilgrims go to the well to drink it, and to the lady's well for bathing, a bath being set apart for that purpose. Twelve years ago it was said as many as 8,000,000 or 10,000,000 gallons of water flowed from the well in twenty-four hours; but the quantity has now been reduced to 3,500,000 or 4,000,000 gallons. The four-inch pipe which the Defendant had been licensed to use would take away 32 gallons a minute, or 46,080 gallons in twenty-four hours. From Saturday afternoons to Monday mornings, however, when the mills on the stream are not at work, there is a large accumulation of water. The Urban Council contended that they had the right to grant the licence; and that, if the water taken under it by the Defendant was not so used, it would run away to waste. A motion now came on for an interim injunction until the trial of the action; and on it being pointed out to the Defendants' Counsel by Mr. Justice North that, according to the licence granted, there was nothing to prevent him abstracting the water on any other days of the week than Sunday if he got special leave, he said he would give an undertaking until the trial of the action not to take the water on any other days than Sunday.

Mr. Neville, Q.C., and Mr. Cozens-Hardy appeared for the Plaintiffs; Mr. Levett, Q.C., and Mr. Rutherford for the Defendant.

Mr. Justice North said it seemed full of obscurity who was the owner of the spring, but if he had thought there would be any serious inconvenience between now and the hearing of the action he should have tried to see whether he could grant an injunction.

As it was, he did not at present think there would be inconvenience or any serious damage sustained by anybody, and therefore he left the whole of the question over until the trial of the action, making no order, except that the costs of all parties be costs in the action.—*Standard*, May 13th, 1899.

(*Mostyn v. Atherton*).—This was an action brought to restrain the Defendant, Jacob Atherton, his servants, agents, and workmen, from diverting or abstracting any water from the spring known as St. Winifred's Well, and from the stream known as Holywell Stream, in the town of Holywell, in the county of Flint, and from in any way interfering with the customary flow of the water of said stream through the lands of which the two plaintiffs are respectively the owner and occupier. Damages and costs were also asked for.—Mr. Nevill, Q.C., and Mr. Cozens-Hardy, appeared for the Plaintiffs, and Mr. Rutherford represented the Defendant.

The two Plaintiffs are Sir Piers William Mostyn and Grosvenor, Chator, and Company (Limited), Sir Piers Mostyn being the owner of certain lands at Holywell, on each side of the Holywell stream, and also several mills and works abutting on the stream; the co-Plaintiffs are lessees from Sir Piers Mostyn of the Abbey Paper Mills. According to the Plaintiffs' case, the Octagonal Well and the Lady's Well are collectively known as St. Winifred's Well, which has for many centuries been visited by pilgrims who drink the water and bathe in the well, which has always been considered to possess curative properties. The Plaintiff, Sir Piers Mostyn, and his predecessors in title were riparian owners, and have for more than a hundred years enjoyed the free and uninterrupted flow of water from St. Winifred's Well, down the Holywell stream, and had used the water for motive power and for reasonable purposes in their mill. By an indenture of May 15th, 1898, the Urban District Council of Holywell purported to grant to the Defendant the sole right to abstract and use water from the St. Winifred's Well, for the purpose of storing in casks and bottles for sale. This licence was to commence on May 1st, 1898, the Council having power to determine it if the rent—which was on an increasing scale, culminating in a payment of £500 a year—was not duly paid. The indenture further purported to empower the Defendant to take the water between the hours of midnight on Saturday and midnight on Sunday, with further permission to take it on other days between midnight and six A.M. on the following day. The Defendant threatened to abstract water in accordance with that indenture, and for extraordinary and unreasonable purposes. The Plaintiffs said that the quantity of water flowing down the stream had for the last twenty or thirty years been steadily decreasing, and at present was barely sufficient for the needs of the Plaintiffs and other owners and occupiers of mills on the stream; and the Plaintiff Company and their predecessors had for the last thirty years been compelled to construct reservoirs for the purpose of storing the water for use in their mill, to supplement the flow of the water from St. Winifred's Well or Holywell

stream. If the Defendant abstracted or diverted any water from St. Winifred's Well or Holywell stream, or carried out the powers entrusted to him by the indenture, the accustomed flow of water would be materially interfered with, and the Plaintiff Company would be unable to use the stream for motive power, or to fill their reservoirs, and for the purposes of their mill, and would suffer loss and damage. The Defendant was not the owner or occupier of any land abutting upon St. Winifred's Well, or the stream, and, the Plaintiffs contended, had no right to abstract the water. The allegations of the Plaintiffs were denied by the Defendants. Among the points relied on by the Defendants, one was that the Octagonal Well and Lady's Well, and the Swimming Bath, were situate on land belonging to the Urban District Council of Holywell, who were owners thereof and of surrounding land in fee simple. Another allegation was that the Urban District Council of Holywell had the right to confirm the rights and privileges granted by the indenture, and that any obstruction the Plaintiffs might cause would not materially or at all interfere with Plaintiffs, or either of them.

Evidence having been called for the Plaintiffs,

Mr. Rutherford addressed the Judge on the legal questions involved in the action; and Mr. Nevill replied.

Mr. Justice Byrne, in giving judgment, having reviewed the facts, said, so far as the evidence before him went, everything pointed to this being a public well; and, having been vested in the Local Board, he was of opinion that the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, would not justify the Local Board, or persons claiming under licence by them, to do what was contemplated to be done, and authorised to be done under the licence in question. He thought, therefore, that there was no right on the part of the Defendant under this licence to abstract and use water from the spring in the manner and for the purpose mentioned in the licence in question. It had been proved before him that if the licence were acted upon in any considerable degree, it would cause a sensible diminution in the flow of water. He, therefore, thought the Plaintiffs had established their right, and he granted an injunction in the terms asked, with costs.—*Standard*, June 30th, 1899.

HAVERFORDWEST CHURCHES.—(Fol. 55^a) St. Mary's Church consists of a Body and North Isle, both leaded, curiously roofed at Top, y^c windows Regular & very Lightsom. The South Isle or Nave has in y^c Church part 5 or 6 hansom windows over those below & ab^t 3 or 4 in y^c Chancel part. The Steeple stands at y^c End of y^c North Isle, which is of equal Length with y^c Nave, except that y^c Steeple is compris'd in it. In y^c Steeple, which is of Lead on a Stone Tower ab^t 120 ft. high, hang 5 Bells y^c Biggest ab^t 24 hundred w^t. Length

from East to West 45 y^{ds} or abt 140 ft., Breadth of y^e Body & Side Isle 41 ft. Six Pillars & y^e intermediate walls divide y^e Nave & North Isle. Seven hansom windows between y^e North Porch & East window. The Church seemingly built temp. H. 7. An old Monument on y^e North Side y^e Communion Table seemingly of one of y^e Batemans, being y^e Effigies of a Pilgrim with a Staff & Arms of Escallops on a Pouch. The Priory (church) Single Isled with large uniform windows of Good Height. A Tower seemingly in y^e middle. It is in Length abt 150 ft., in Breadth abt 32 ft.

(Fo. 55^b) The Priory of St. Thomas in Haverford West. Several of the walls of it are still standing.

The Friery very little or no Remains, y^e whole scite converted into lime kilns. Several Human Bones, Stone Coffins, etc., dug up here, & one or 2 Effigies of men in full Proportion. The Person who rented it bought it of y^e Barlows, one Lord a quaker, & dug it up, reduced from Wealthy Circumstances to a Low mean condition, flung into gaol, etc., 'Twas by report a Large Building. No Ancient Grave Stones in the Church of St. Thomas, which stands abt a Furlong from y^e Priory, w^{ch} was dedicated to St. Thos. a Becket & has a high Tower with 2 Bells in it & a Body and Nave.

St. Martins is a spire, has 3 Bells in it, but is but small & has 2 Isles. No old tombs.

The Priory church was built in y^e shape of a Cross, abt 32 ft. broad and abt y^e same height, from E. to W. abt 140 ft. 'Twas a neat Lightsom Building, the walls yet standing. I was told of some Tradition of a Bp. buried at the Friery of Haverford West & of some memorandum of his Effigies 53 years Ago.

The above is taken from notes contributed to Browne Willis by Edward Yardley, Archdeacon of Cardigan, written about 1739, and copied into his note-book now at the Bodleian M.S. Gough, *Wales*, 4. Fenton (*Pembrokeshire*, p. 209) refers to the M.S., and to the retribution to the sacrilegious quaker; he thinks the bishop in question was Gilbert, Bishop of St. David's, 1389 to 1397.

The greater portion of the book is taken up with information about the diocese of St. David's, lists of the benefices and of their occupants, monumental inscriptions in Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire, and a few pedigrees, e.g., of the Brigstocke family, originally "of Croyden in Surry."

There are also extracts from a MS. of a Visitation of some parts of Wales in 1529, "belonging to Mr. Le Neve, Norroy." One gives the arms of Bishop Tully, who was "born in Bristow and lies in Tenby;" of Bishop Edward Vaughan, Chancellor Talley, John Lewis the Treasurer, and Thomas Lloyd the Chanter. Another has the following account of the monuments in "Carmarthen Priory Church":—

"Edm^d Earl of Richmond in y^e midst of the choir.

"S^r Rice ap Thomas & his Uncle S^r Rice ap Griffith.

"W^m de Valence Earl of Pembroke.

"S^r John Rede Kn^t on y^e south side of the choir.

"Griffith Nicholls Esq. in a Tomb of Alabaster before y^e Image of S^t Francis.

"To this Priory Church it was that Bp. Barlow attempted y^e Removing y^e See, tho but a small Buiding of a single Isle & without a Steeple or Pillars: tis in length ab^t 70 or 80 feet & in breadth 30 feet."

HENRY OWEN.

GELLYGAER.—Somewhat in the classic manner of the great historian who effusively said, "I, Herodotus of Halicarnassus, do write this book," I announce my intention, in a very earnest but diffident manner, to give a sketch or two of the district and surroundings which will come under the notice of our members at the Merthyr Tydvil visit in 1900. First, then, of Gellygaer, which is reached by train on the Rhymney and Great Western Station at Llancaiaich, and is about half an hour's run by rail; but there is a long climb afterwards for gaitered archæologists. The first impression is more mineral than antiquarian. You are in a coal district, where some of the earliest levels were driven in monastic days, of which our lamented member, Mr. G. T. Clark, gleaned from the *Compotus*, or Ministers' Account for Glamorgan, in the ninth year of Edward I. One of these relates to Caerphilly, of which more again; the other, Llanvabon, which is close at hand.

"*Redditus assize et advocatus*

"Et de vjs. viij^d. de firma piscariæ aque de Taaf per idem tempus. De molendino de Landivedon nichil quia combustum et destructum fuit in guerre. De firma mine carbonum ibidem nichil pro defectu operariorum causa guerra. Sum vjs. viij^d."

"Thus translated: "And 6s. 8d. from the fishing water of the Taff during the same period half yearly. From the mill at Llanvabon nothing, because it was destroyed by the fire in the war. From the farming of the coal mine there nothing, through lack of workmen on account of the war. Total 6s. 8d."

It is difficult now to locate the old mine, though it is believed to have furnished supplies previous to the early workings of the Cartwrights, Beddoes, and Powells. Crossing the line of railway, which is one of the great coal-feeders of Cardiff, the first place of interest is Llancaiaich fawr, a place of historic interest associated with the time of Charles I. On July 20th, 1645, his itinerary locates him at Cardiff: "Dined with the governor at my own expense." It is inferred from this that the governor must have been disloyal; for the next day we find that Charles appointed Sir H. Stradling, of St. Donat's, Governor of Cardiff Castle; and then as if they had rectified matters and rendered the district acceptable

to Royalty, he stopped there seven nights. No item of expense appearing, this was evidently at the governor's expense.

The next entry is: "Aug. 5. Dinner Glanyach." This is the house referred to, and it is in the same condition as when for a brief few hours it sheltered the King. It is a large old mansion, impressing the least observant with the fact of its antiquity. The walls are immensely thick, the doors strongly made, studded with large iron nails; heavy mullioned windows; the top room loopholed for the cross-bow and "musquet," and the whole building capable in its day of standing a siege.

This house, in the time of King Charles I, was inhabited by the Prichards, an old family connected by intermarriage with the descendants of Ivor Bach, the noted Welsh chieftain, who assailed Cardiff Castle and took prisoner the Earl of Gloucester.

The descent of the Prichards from Ivor is as follows:—

This Lewis of the Van in 1569 married Margaret Gamage, of Coity, and had seven children. Ann, the fourth, married to John Thomas Llanbradach, Esq.; second, Edward Prichard, Esq., of Llancaiach. At the time of the King's visit the family was represented by Col. Pritchard, or Prichard, who was Governor of Cardiff Castle during the Protectorate. At this period Prichard had not, it is assumed, declared himself; but the reception was not a cordial one, and the *Mir. Carol.* intimates that he simply dined, and then rode away through Gellygaer, by Heol Adam, the Roman road, to the Waun mountain, and on to Brecon; reaching that place and sleeping there the same night. On arriving at Brecon he appears (Clarendon's *History*) to have written a letter to Prince Charles, therein advising him to quit the kingdom and take refuge in France. Leaving Llancaiach, a walk through a picturesque road, so good as to suggest in places a Roman foundation, brings one on to Gellygaer. There, on a plateau on the hills, grandly encircled by mountains, is the old-world village, part agricultural, part colliery, with an old church, in part restored; and in front of the rectory a wide field, bearing evidence of Roman occupation. In an old Terrier of the place, the name is given as Killygare, so that scholars have a choice afforded them of the generally-accepted etymology of "woody fortress," or "the cell of the fortress." It is a remarkable fact that in these days of close archæological investigation, the interesting Roman settlement has remained up to the present year practically unexamined and unexplored. You may find near labourers' dwellings, with their ancient dormer windows, a Roman brick wedged in here and there in the wall, and pieces of concrete ornamenting the front; and in the rector's garden the spade every springtime brings to light bits of vitreous glass, fragments of Samian ware, or a portion of an amphora; otherwise, until lately, the great expanse was untouched. A quarter of a century ago, in the time of Canon Gilbert Harries, I visited the place, and he pointed out to me the field as, in his belief, the site of a Roman villa; and it was his full intention to make a careful inspection. This was never carried

out, but now initiatory proceedings have been taken, and some fragmentary matters deposited in the Cardiff Museum. The present rector retains some of the discoveries; and it would be well that on a resumption of the exploration all should be retained by him, until at least the period of the meeting of the Association in August. Some of the urns dug up in the garden of the rectory were simply of baked clay. In one of these ashes were found, but have, unfortunately, been lost. Portions of urns, with early ornamentation, and one or two choice glazed ones, with a small brass figure, have also been turned up. When it is known that fully half an acre of ground remains unexplored, it will be seen that substantial results may yet be obtained. The church stands midway between the Gaer, an old British encampment known locally as "the Castle," which has not been thoroughly examined. That the district is also of great historic interest in connection with Norman times is very clear. One of the many battles between the Normans and Welsh is located at this place, and is thus mentioned by Caradoc: "The same year, 1024, the battle of Gelli Darwawc was fought between the Welsh and Normans, in which the latter were defeated with great loss. Soon after, another battle was fought between the Welsh and Normans, who had received a reinforcement of English. The Welsh fled before their enemies to the mountains of Breconshire, where they halted, and became assailants in turn, and completely routed their opponents, leaving but few to escape with their lives. As the men of Glamorgan were returning home, they were met at Gellygaer by the Earl of Arundel, and several other Norman earls and princes, that were going to assist Robert Fitzhamon; a battle ensued, and the Normans were defeated with the loss of all their chiefs." Several names of farms in the neighbourhood have etymological significance, and suggest affrays in Norman times, when the wide campaign was in all probability the scene of many a skirmish. The rector, who is an invaluable guide, points out the singular shyness of the inhabitants to meeting strangers, as a relic of the despoiling spoliation suffered by the old inhabitants from the Norman enemy, who were known to issue from Abergavenny and Caerphilly, and scour the country around. Heol Adam, which is the Roman road, traces of which are to be seen at Llanvabon, takes a direct line over the mountains to Vochriw, passing first a large encampment known locally as Capel Gwladys. This Gwladys was a daughter of Brychan, and, consequently, a sister of Tydvil the martyr, the founder of Merthyr Tydvil; but the place has more the appearance of a Roman encampment, and it lies contiguous to the road. Some distance from this, on a wild part of the mountain, and in line with the road, is a pillar, which is stated to have borne the name of Frontinus, the Roman general who subdued the Silures. The statement in old guide books is, that the letters were chipped off one day by a drunken mason, known as Shon Morgan (*Hist. Merthyr*, p. 2). There are indications of a grave at this point, and very possibly an examination would prove this, the Romans often burying by the line of their roads, either the

great causeways or the branch roads, *viæ vicinales*. This road very probably was connected with Dolygaer, near the Beacons, and with Brecon.

C. WILKINS, F.G.S.

A MOST INTERESTING ECCLESIASTICAL RUIN IN CARMARTHENSHIRE.—Nearly everybody in Carmarthenshire, and a limited number of folk in other parts of the diocese, are more or less dimly aware of the fact that there is a parish somewhere named Llanfihangel-Abercowin. To most of these people the name is a mere name, and nothing more. It is true that since 1882, when an annual service began to be held there, all or many of us for, say, ten miles round have learned that the remains of an old building, known as "The Pilgrim's Church," exists somewhere not many miles from St. Clears. Excepting the inhabitants of the bit of country between St. Clears, Laugharne, and Llangunnoek, few of the learned or the unlearned in this or in any other part of the world have any further acquaintance with one of the most mysterious and interesting relics of the past to be found in this or the adjoining counties. The very title is a mystery which might keep historians and antiquarians speculating for a lifetime. Why, the "The Pilgrims"? What pilgrims? Holy Palmers—

The faded palm-branch in his hand
Showed pilgrim from the Holy Land—

or pilgrims to St. David's shrine? If the former, why should they be buried in this sequestered inland nook of South Wales, and their graves decked with so singular emblems? The popular tradition about them has been so varied and corrupted by the carelessness of the few writers who have noticed it, that very little light can be gained from that quarter. We hear of three holy pilgrims, again of four, more generally of five; and even six have been spoken of. If any definite number is to be admitted into the story at all, it is probable that five is to be preferred. Five graves, somewhat similar in character (two of them long hidden), are now to be seen. And are not five men concerned in the tradition about Llanddowror, not far off? So again we have Pumpsaint, Llanpumpsaint, and other names indicating the sacredness or popularity of the number Five in connection with the origin or dedication of other very ancient churches in South Wales.

But this remark must not be understood to imply that the venerable church in question was dedicated to *the*, or any, Pilgrims. It is, in some unexplained sense, the Church of the Pilgrims, but then it was from time immemorial the parish church of Llanfihangel-Abercowin; and the very name, even if there had been no local tradition—which there is—on the subject, settles the question of

dedication. The too little known, but deeply learned, tractates of the Rev. Robert Owen, B.D., of Vron-y-graig, Barmouth, abundantly prove, among other things, that at a very early period—if not the very earliest period—of Christianity in this country, by far the commonest dedications of Welsh churches were to St. Michael and St. Peter; and if we could get at the oldest place-names, where the first wicker or stone buildings were raised for Christian worship, we should probably find that Llanfihangels and Llanbedrs predominated over all other titles. It would appear that the names extended to other places than churches: possibly preaching stations, where the cross set up by the first missionary was religiously preserved. In comparatively late times the religious character of such spots became more or less obscured. A few miles from Crymmych Arms, in the spurs of the Precelly range, there is a rude enclosure, like a small British encampment, which is still called by the neighbours *Croes Fihangel*. Men now or lately living have heard from their fathers that, in the memory of the latter, criminals used to be publicly executed there, and the old cross, if we mistake not, remained down to that time. It would be said of some notorious malefactor, "He was hanged at Croes Fihangel."

The fact of the Pilgrim's Church being dedicated to St. Michael is one presumption of its great antiquity, but to its antiquity there are numerous other and still stronger testimonies. Some writers on this subject in the newspapers have stated, on we know not what authority, that pilgrims used to consider themselves under the special protection of the angels, and would for that reason resort to the church of the great Archangel Michael. Was this an idea amongst pilgrims generally, among Welsh pilgrims in particular, or among any pilgrims at all? There is, to our thinking, an apocryphal air about this part of the story; and yet it may be difficult to invent any better explanation of the problem why this one church, among many dedicated to St. Michael, should have become the Church of the Pilgrims. But we shall have something more to say on this point by-and-bye.

It does not seem, so far as our inquiries have gone, that the Pilgrims' Church was ever visited by the Cambrian Archæological Association or any body of experts. And yet it would appear that that once-noted "Cambrian," the late Professor Westwood, must have seen the place, judging from an article on the stone monuments of South Wales which he supplied to the *Archæological Cambrensis* (see page 316) in the year 1847; for in that article he not only makes some remarks on Llanfihangel-Abercowin, but gives a pictorial illustration of one of the Pilgrims' graves. He first refers to three graves which may now be seen close to the chancel of the old church on the south side. Of these, the Professor says that they were "affirmed to be the sepulchres of certain holy Palmers who wandered thither in poverty and distress, and, about to perish for want, slew each other, the last survivor burying himself in one of the graves which they had prepared, and, pulling the stone over,

left it ill-adjusted in an oblique posture. One of these stones is said to be the grave of a mason, the stone being perforated with a hole; the upper part contains the figure of the head, neck, and crossed arms of a man, having a cross sculptured on his breast, and with the feet visible at the bottom of the stone. The second has an upper part similar, but the part below the crossed hands is covered with a lattice-like ornament, and the feet are not represented. This is said to cover a glazier; and the third, which is coped, has merely cord-like mouldings with a cross at the head, and is referred to a ropemaker. The sanctity of these pilgrims, the natives affirm, keeps the Peninsula and Llanfihangel free from serpents, toads, or venomous reptiles, the exception being when the tombstones are overgrown with weeds. Two similar memorials, the one coffin-shaped and other bearing a head, cross, &c., lie a few yards further to the south. On opening the middle grave there was found, at a depth of four feet, a sort of cist-faen, composed of six slabs of stone arranged in the shape of an ordinary coffin; two more slabs formed the top and bottom for the sepulchral chest. In it were some small bones of a youth or female, and half-a-dozen shells each about the size of the palm of the hand, by description previously corresponding to the cockle-shells of the pilgrims; thus evidently proving the graves to be those of persons under a vow of pilgrimage performed by or attributed to them. I apprehend these graves may be attributed to the fifteenth century."

There is a similar story to this told in *Black's Guide to South Wales*, and other references of no particular authority; and, evidently, Professor Westwood told it as he had read it or heard it, simply setting down the legend as a legend and nothing more. The suggestion that a mason, a glazier, and a ropemaker were buried there is evidently the invention of simple peasants, anxious to find a meaning for symbolism which had become unfamiliar in their day. The one element of truth in the story, the learned man seems to tell us, is that these graves are really and truly the graves of some noted pilgrims. Who the original wanderers were who found rest here, and what class of pilgrims or palmers they were, we shall probably never know; but there must have been something in their history which impressed the popular mind with a profound idea of their sanctity. Perhaps they were foreigners also. At all events, it seems very probable that their memory in after-times was instrumental in establishing a little religious community here which gave hospitality to foreign pilgrims on their way to St. David's shrine. It is stated in one old document that a priory of Cluniac monks was founded about here in 1291, but this is not likely to have been the first religious house. The Normans commonly replaced or enlarged existing foundations. Most British pilgrims had their halting-places at Strata Florida and Whitland, but those arriving from the west or landing at, say, Kidwelly, which was once the best port in South Wales, would cross the Llanstephan ferry, and make a convenient pause for bodily and spiritual refreshment at the

Pilgrims' Church. It is well known that the Llanstephan ferry belonged to the Knights-Templars at Slebech; and from its importance in their time we may reasonably conclude that it existed before ever that Order had established a community in Pembrokeshire. How long this was "the Pilgrims" Church before Norman times cannot now be told or even guessed at, but it is worthy of note that the latest work to be seen in the existing ruin belongs to the Norman period. And it is curious that this ancient structure and the neighbouring church at St. Clears are the only ones for miles around that have channel arches of strictly Norman architecture.

The Pilgrims' Church stands on a little peninsula formed by the rivers Tave and Cowin, where the latter empties its waters into the former; hence the addition of *Abercowin* to the dedicatory name *Llanfihangel*. So there was a small *Teilo* Church (of which a few traces remain), a little way off on the opposite side of the water, named *Llandilo-Abercowin*. This old Pilgrims' Church was the parish church of *Llanfihangel-Abercowin* up to 1848, when a new building—a fairly spacious but very plain structure—was erected in a more populous part of the parish, close to the road leading into St. Clears, at the sole expense of the late Mr. Richard Richards, of *Trecadwgan*. The living was then held in plurality with that of *Mydrim*; and according to the ideas which prevailed in rural districts half a century ago, an antiquated building, however hallowed its associations, became an eyesore as soon as you had a substitute for it in clean new bricks and mortar. As those who ought to have taken the foremost part in preserving this strange antique temple saw so reason to bestir themselves, it is hardly to be wondered at, in so materialistic a generation, that farmers and others living in the vicinity began to look upon the timber of the church, the monuments of the departed, and the grass of the churchyard, as lawful prey. First, the roof of the church was carried away, together with such portions of the stonework as could be readily applied to utilitarian purposes. Some brackets on the interior of the walls were broken, and even the fine old Norman font was carried out and thrown down somewhere among heaps of rubbish. Cattle were turned into God's acre (the churchyard is just about an acre in extent) to browse where they listed, and tread down what remained of the neglected memorials of the pious dead—pilgrims and all the rest. Nay, the very gravestones, fine slabs with interesting inscriptions, some of them commemorating members of the leading families of the district, were carried away wholesale to flag dairies and the like. Many gravestones which appeared to be useless for such purposes were smashed and thrown into the hedges around. At last the narrow beds of the pilgrims themselves, which had been so religiously cared for during long ages, were desecrated, the beautifully-carved stones being displaced, and in some places broken. All this time the roofless church was rapidly crumbling to decay, but the churchyard fared

still worse, if possible. The fences being thrown down, cattle and pigs roamed at pleasure through the tall nettles and brambles; but at last the place became dangerous for the very brutes, and human beings could hardly venture near it. The old prophecy referred to by Professor Westwood was literally fulfilled. For the first time, so far as was known to living memory, or even to tradition, the place began to be infested with vipers and all sorts of venomous reptiles, to such a degree that the locality became a veritable plague-spot. It is stated by some of the neighbours that houses to which the gravestones had been removed were also frequented by the serpents during the time this awful desecration continued.

Something less than twenty years ago, Llanfihangel-Abercowin, having been detached from Myddrim and made once more a separate living, the present vicar, Rev. W. Davies, was appointed to the charge of the parish. Had the change been delayed a few years, every trace of the Pilgrims' graves and other antiquities worth notice would probably have disappeared; but Mr. Davies found that there was still something to be preserved, and he lost no time in setting about its preservation. Not only his own parishioners, but all cultured men and women who take an interest in the mystic past of old Wales, owe him an incalculable debt. Had he been an enthusiastic archæologist we should not be inclined to give him so much credit, for in that case he could hardly, so to speak, have refrained from doing much of what he has done. But the good vicar has never, so far as we can learn, made antiquities a hobby or a special study. He evidently believes, however, that if Christianity is a Divine thing, its past, no less than its present and future, is something to be conserved, studied, and revered; and that the ashes of our Christian forefathers, while awaiting a glorious resurrection, are not to be treated like the remains of the brutes that perish. Whatever his motive, the result is the same, and we all owe him much for the energy, trouble, and expenditure he has devoted to the preservation of one most interesting ecclesiastical relics in this country. When first he began to busy himself about cleaning the graveyard, having the weeds, nettles, and brambles cut away, carrying back the scattered tombstones from the ditches and hedges to their original positions, and getting the fences restored at considerable expense, there were not a few who fancied that the new parson had a bee in his bonnet. It was such an unheard-of thing to make all that fuss over what nobody else, for a generation or more, had ever thought worth a moment's attention. It was felt to be quite a grievance that the cattle should be shut out, and the case was almost worse when the vicar began to demand that the stolen grave-slabs should be restored. It bordered on impertinence. But with quiet persistence the meddling parson gained his points one by one. Perhaps his task was a little smoothed by the custom he instituted, in 1882, of holding an annual service once a year in the old roofless church, where the neighbours learned from sermons and the very words of the prayers used, to

revive in some degree the reverence with which their fathers regarded this venerable church and cemetery. In a few quarters he received considerable help. Among the memorials he restored to the graveyard were a few belonging to the Waters family; and Mr. R. Waters, of Sarnau, not only contributed £10 to put up a railing, but has ever since, we believe, given an annual subscription towards the proper keeping of the burial-ground. On the other hand, a few still remained dissatisfied, and on one occasion an old yew tree of unknown age, on the south side of the chancel, was set on fire. The tree was burned down to the ground, but the roots soon sent up new shoots, which have now become large and vigorous saplings. This fact, together with the disappearance of the poisonous reptiles from the locality, seems to indicate that, with the preservation of the graves, there is yet a future before the old Pilgrims' Church.

There is every reason to believe that the first small house of Christian worship here dates from a period of hoary antiquity, and the actual building whose remains still stand must be very old indeed, as it is of purely Norman architecture, and practically shows no trace of later work. Externally, the church is about 72 ft. long by 24 ft. wide. The nave is about 36 ft. long by 18 ft. wide internally, and the chancel about 20 ft. by 15 ft. The walls throughout are from $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. to 4 ft. thick. The fine Norman tower at the west end has been for the most part preserved. The tower is of very massive and solid workmanship, and has some rather elegant mouldings at the sides of the doorways. The chancel arch, from which all plaster has fallen away, is not of very substantial construction, but it is real Norman. The east window looks square from the inside, but there are remains of mouldings outside, on each side of a mullion, which indicate that it was, in its latest form, a two-light window of the Early English pattern. The two windows in the south wall would appear to have been plain "square-headed" lights, but from some flimsy work of stone and slate at the top of one, it seems evident that some pious Puritan churchwarden went to the trouble of "squaring" them. There are remains of curious stone brackets (one still supporting part of a stone shelf, almost the same as at Capel Begawdin, Llanddarog) on each side of where the altar stood; and at the extreme eastern ends of the north and south walls of the chancel are two long, narrow openings, one in each corner, which must have been rude *sedilia*, although they were too narrow for any but ascetic clerics (such as pilgrims would possibly associate with) to sit easily in them. There is another cavity in the chancel wall, perhaps 4 ft. from the ground, which would, no doubt, have been used to hold the sacred vessels temporarily. Further west, in the north wall of the chancel, there is a large square hollow where some large marble or other memorial slab must at one time have been fixed. There is a holy-water stoup in the south wall of the tower, on the right-hand side just as one is about to enter the nave, and another on

the right side just inside the door by which worshippers entered the nave from the south side. The bowl of latter stoup projected a good deal, thus offering a temptation which some Vandal has been unable to resist. So the bowl has been broken off, just as was done at Capel Begawdin, beyond Llanddarog, a few years ago. A peculiar feature of the church is noticeable in some broken steps in the north wall of the nave, not far from the chancel arch. Aged people say (and there is nothing incredible in the statement to those who have examined old churches) that these steps are part of a stone staircase which led through a passage inside the north wall up to the tower. The tower has a door 18 ft. or 20 ft. from the ground, opening into the nave, and the passage would lead towards that door. From what we have seen in a few old Pembrokeshire churches, it would appear that the passage ought to have been continued in the opposite direction also, so as to lead up to a rood-loft over the chancel arch. The stonework is exposed there, however, and there are no traces of stone brackets or other supports, indicating that a rood-loft ever existed in the place where one would naturally expect to find it. There are curious little nooks or cavities on each side below the spring of the fine arch which leads from the tower to the nave. The greater part of the north wall of the nave and much of the south wall of the chancel have fallen in; otherwise, the larger part of the masonry of the church is in a tolerable state of preservation.

We cannot dwell longer on this subject at present, but it is possible that some day we may be able to go more fully into the subject of the Pilgrims' Graves, which would require a long special article to do them justice. These notes were written last summer, almost on the eve of the usual service which is annually held at Llanfihangel-Abercowin, *sub caelo aperto*, as the occasion seemed to be a suitable one for giving some description, however imperfect, of the curious old ruin. The Vicar of Laugharne is a man who knows a good deal about antiquities as well as theology, and many were glad to find that he was selected as the preacher for that day. We trust that he and every educated man in the district will second the efforts of the Rev. W. Davies to preserve from further devastation the church and graves of the pilgrims.

H. C. TIERNEY.

EARLY CHRISTIAN MONUMENTS AT PEN ARTHUR, NEAR ST. DAVID'S.—The Pen Arthur stones have been already described and illustrated in Prof. J. O. Westwood's *Lapidarium Walliæ*, and in a paper on "Early Christian Art in Wales," by the editor in the January number of the *Arch. Camb.* for the present year. These monuments were removed to Bishop Vaughan's Chapel in St. David's Cathedral a few years ago, for their better preservation, by the late Dean Allen.

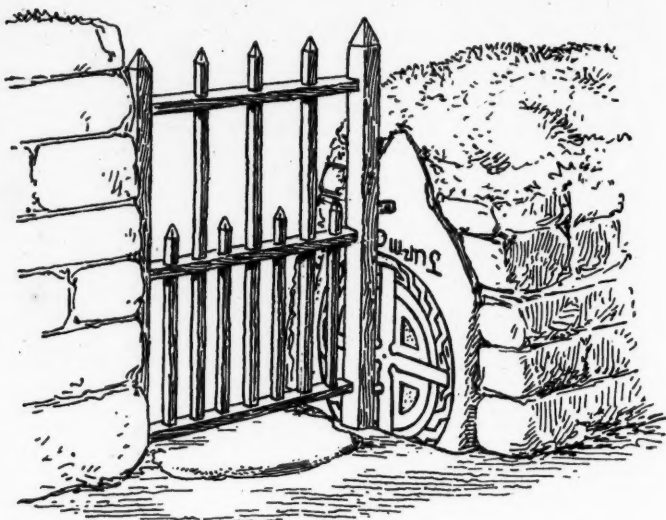


Fig. 1.—The "Gurmaro" Stone, in use as a gate-post, at Pen Arthur, near St. David's.

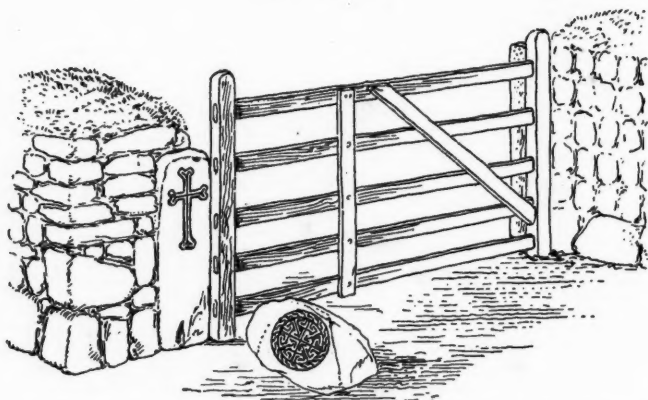


Fig. 2.—Sculptured Stones at Pen Arthur: one used as gate-post, and the other to keep the gate shut.

It may be interesting to record the positions of the stones before their removal. They are four in number, namely, the "Gurmaro"

slab, two ornamented cross-slabs, and a small pillar bearing an incised cross of early form. Fig. 1 shows the "Gurmarc" stone, which was turned upside down and used as a gate-post in the boundary wall of the farm-yard, with a road passing in front of it. Fig. 2 shows one of the ornamental slabs and the pillar with an incised cross, the latter used as a gate-post, and the former to keep the gate shut or prop it open as occasion might require. The gate-

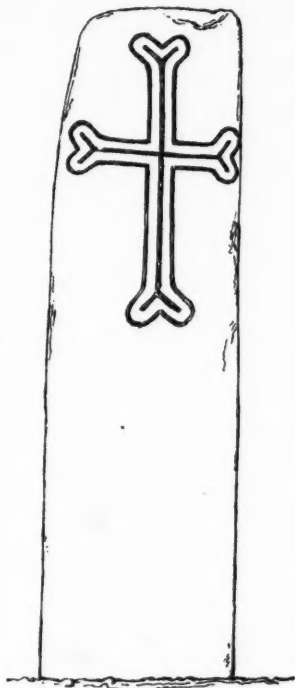


Fig. 3.—Sculptured Stone, used as gate-post, at Pen Arthur.
Scale, $\frac{1}{12}$ linear.

way was a short distance beyond the farm, in the direction of Carn Lidi, and led from the road into a field. Fig. 3 shows the gatepost to a larger scale. The fourth stone was built into the wall forming the hedge to the road, close to the gateway.

Reviews and Notices of Books.

A CATALOGUE OF PRINTED LITERATURE IN THE WELSH DEPARTMENT
OF THE CARDIFF FREE LIBRARIES. BY JOHN BALLINGER
AND JOHN IVANO JONES. 1898.

CIRCUMSTANCES have prevented us from noticing this volume at an earlier date, and now that both space and opportunity are favourable, we find that the nature of the work leaves us little more to do than to heartily recommend it to our members. The town of Cardiff possesses one of the finest free municipal libraries in the kingdom; and under wise and careful direction this great institution has attained to its present high position, concurrently with the advancement of the town itself in wealth and importance. More than ten years ago, the library committee recognized the position of Cardiff as the leading Welsh municipality by founding a Welsh department, which their ever-increasing resources have enabled them to develop into the finest collection of Welsh books, and of English books relating to Wales, that is in existence. It is well known that this result is mainly due to the unwearied exertions of the chief librarian, Mr. John Ballinger, whose services we are delighted to see have recently been substantially recognised, as they have always been cordially appreciated by the library committee. With the formation of such a collection as has already been brought together, a Catalogue became a necessity; and now that it has been issued it is but the barest justice to recognise that it is in every way worthy of its source. Indeed, it fulfils to a large extent the purposes of a bibliography, and is therefore almost a necessity to those who wish to know the extent of Welsh literature and of English literature relating to Wales. The Welsh entries have been compiled by Mr. Ivano Jones, Mr. Ballinger's assistant; and this gentleman's collaboration has resulted in the entire absence, so far as we have been able to discover, of the distressing typographical errors so common in references to Welsh books. To some of the entries of Welsh classics, such as *Y Bardd Cwsg*, *Canwyll y Cymry*, and a few others, brief bibliographical notes are appended, which, though not professing to be complete, add to the knowledge of the general reader, and serve to show as well the lacunæ in the collection as the relation of copies it possesses to the entire issues. We have met with only one item the accuracy of which we doubt. The initials of "O'C, E," which appear in their proper place, are said to represent "William Halliday." Are they not rather those of the great Irish scholar, Eugene O'Curry?

COL. W. LL. MORGAN has recently privately printed *An Antiquarian Survey of East Gower*, largely illustrated from photographs and drawings, a copy of which we have received. We hope to fully notice it in an early number of the *Journal*.

Obituary.

THE LATE RICHARD VENABLES KYRKE, ESQ.

INASMUCH as no memoir has hitherto appeared in *Archæologia Cambrensis* of the late Mr. R. V. Kyrke, of Pen-y-wern, one of the oldest members of the Cambrian Archæological Society, it seems proper to make some attempt to supply this defect; although it were to be wished that such a tribute to the memory of one not easily forgotten by those who knew him, should have fallen to the hands of a craftsman more skilled in the art of portraiture than I can pretend to be.

Mr. Kyrke was the son of Mr. Richard Venables Kyrke, the elder, and was born at Gwersyllt Hill, June 11th, 1821. His mother was Harriet Anne, daughter of Captain John Jones, of Cae Mynydd, Minera, and he had thus, on the maternal side, a Welsh descent. His grandfather, Mr. Richard Kirk, who died at Gwersyllt Hill in 1839, at the age of 92, was one of the pioneers of mining enterprise, on a large scale, in the neighbourhood of Wrexham, and descended from the Kyrkes of Martinside, in the parish of Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire. Closely akin to these were the Kirkes of Greenhill, in the parish of Norton, Derbyshire, many of the members of which family attained military, naval, and administrative distinction.

The subject of this memoir was educated at Chester, under Dr. Casson, and afterwards at Rugby, under Dr. Arnold; subsequently married (June 2nd, 1849) Fanny, daughter of Henry Warbrick, Esq., of Everton House, Liverpool, and in 1865 purchased Nant-y-frith, Flintshire, where he lived until about seventeen years ago. Thence he removed to Pen-y-wern, in the parish of Hope, Flintshire, where he died of bronchitis, April 1st, 1899, aged 77, his wife having died almost exactly three years before. His two sons are Henry Richard Venables Kyrke, Esq., of Nant-y-frith, and Major Arthur Venables Kyrke, of Taunton, and his only daughter is Mrs. Deane-Drake, of Stokestown, county Wexford, Ireland.

Mr. Kyrke was busily engaged in public affairs: a director first of the Provincial Insurance Company, and afterwards chairman of the Wrexham branch of the Alliance Assurance Company; a director of the Wrexham, Mold and Connah's Quay Company; a magistrate for the county of Flint, and high-sheriff of that county in 1890; and chairman of the Bwlchgwyn Roadstone Company. He filled, moreover, many other offices, and took part in various industrial enterprises. He was fond of gardening and farming, interested in estate management, and a keen observer and lover of nature. In his younger days he delighted in walking, athletic exercises, and hunting, and was noted as "a good shot."

But it is not these sides of Mr. Kyrke's activity and character which demand for him a niche in *Archæologia Cambrensis*. He was,

if not an expert antiquary, at least deeply interested in many archæological problems, and his knowledge of local history was really wonderful. Although he published nothing, except, I believe, a single letter in *Archæologia Cambrensis*, he was an authority on the Roman roads and British camps of his district; and it was a treat to hear him pour forth the treasures of his mind when any point relating to the history of East Denbighshire and South Flintshire, or of persons and families who had lived in that area, was broached. His lively sketches of queer personalities, long ago gathered to their rest, remain memorable, and I smile as I recall some of his laughable stories. For not merely had he an extremely retentive memory, but a strong sense of humour, and his conversation, when he was in the right mood, and allowed himself vent, rendered him a most charming and admirable companion. His was indeed a genial, sunny, liberal, and well-stored mind. The breadth of his interests and the keenness of his observation are also to be noted. He could talk on almost every subject, and throw a quickening and illuminating beam upon most matters which came up for discussion. But Mr. Kyrke could be severe and sarcastic too; and no one is likely to forget some of his caustic speeches, barbed and witty, which he made now and again in public. Yet, I doubt whether he had many real enemies, while troops of admiring friends encircled him. He is now remembered as a cultured, courteous, and hospitable gentleman, an affluent and informing talker, a fascinating companion, a trusty and delightful friend: kind to the poor, and beloved by his children, kinsfolk, and acquaintances.

Wrexham, Dec. 29th, 1899.

ALFRED NEOBARD PALMER.

An obituary notice of the late Mr. Stephen W. Williams, F.S.A., will appear in the April number of the *Journal*.

Annual Meeting at Merthyr in 1900.—The Presidency of the Merthyr Meeting of the Association has been accepted by Lord Aberdare.
